JAN 12 1915

DOUBLE NUMBER—TWOPENCE

THE ERA

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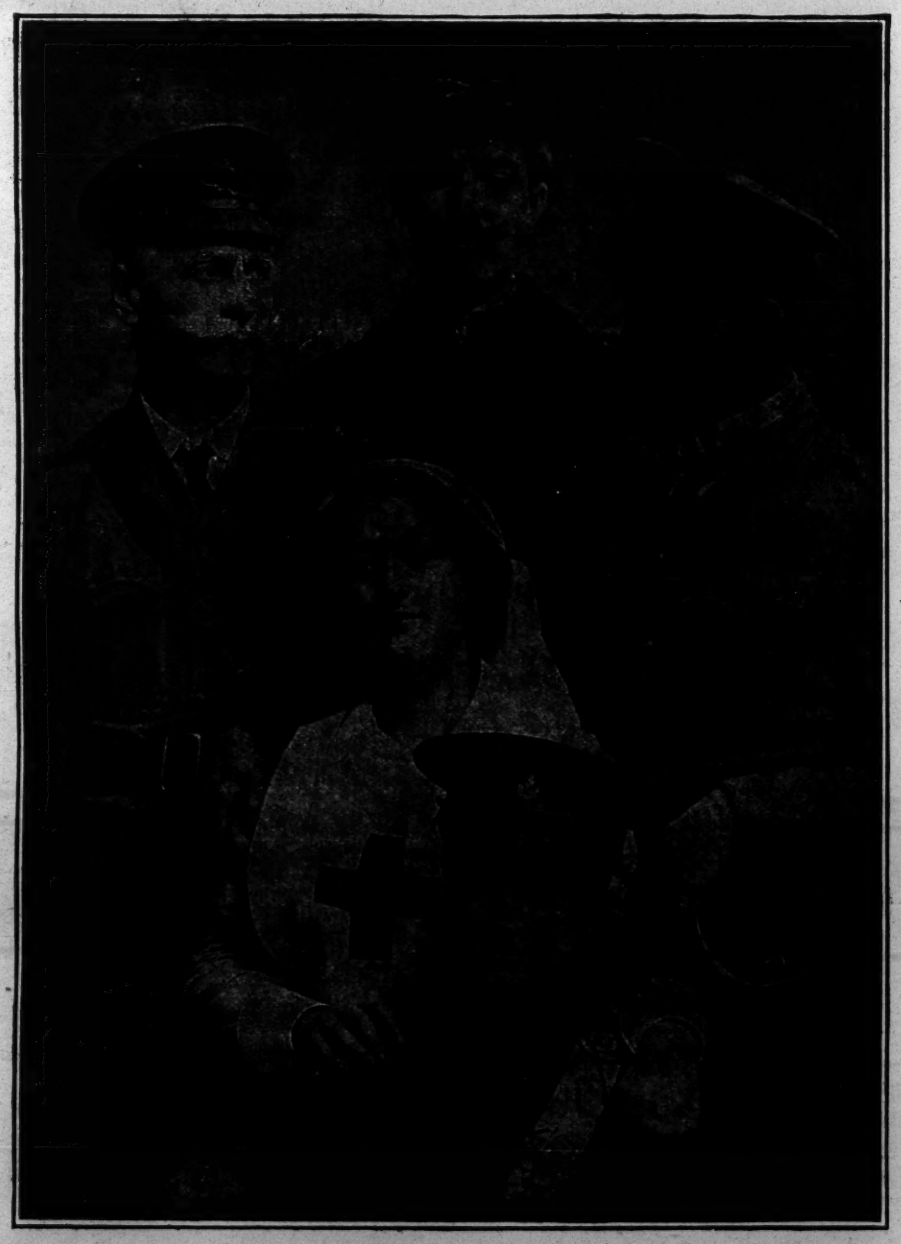

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March 8 (?). April 5, on.
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G.T., SWANSEA, March 1, April 19, May 3, on.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, March 22, 29, April 12, on.
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DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
Jan. 18 onwards.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
Feb. 8, onwards.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE,
Feb. 1, onwards.
LATEST LONDON THEATRICAL SUCCESSES ONLY.
BOOKED AT INTERVALS.
CORONET THEATRE, W.
Spring Dates (Theatrical only).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
Aug. and Sept. Season dates.
H. W. ROWLAND, Coronet Theatre, W.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Twice Nightly Attraction for the above Theatre, Jan. 25. Write full particulars and lowest sharing terms to MOSS' EMPIRES, Theatres Dept., Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Eugene C. Stafford.
WANTED, Managers with Big Attractions to apply for dates for Musical Shows or Good London Plays. Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1915. The right plays take the money.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, Revues, and Specialities of All Sorts.
Apply, T. C. RAWES.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, THE BEST MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ATTRACTIONS.
ALSO REVUES AND STAR COMBINATIONS.
ALSO REVUES AND STAR COMBINATIONS.
ALSO REVUES AND STAR COMBINATIONS.
TO PLAY TWICE NIGHTLY.
TO PLAY TWICE NIGHTLY.
TO PLAY TWICE NIGHTLY.
NOTHING TOO BIG. ON SHARES OR CERTAINTIES.
MARCH 22, ONWARDS, WITH EXCEPTIONS.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES,
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, Jan. 4 and Feb. 22, on shares. Twice nightly. A reasonable certainty given for the right article. Must have good cast, scenery and printing.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES,
Grand Theatre, Derby.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 8, 15, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 12, 19, May 3, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.
WANTED, for Feb. 1, First-class Musical Attraction or Good Vaudeville Revue or Combination; no Pantomime.
Address, WORSWICK, as above.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, ARBROATH.
Stage dimensions, 47 feet, wall to wall, proscenium opening 25 by 20 feet, fly all scenery; good orchestra; seating capacity 1,100. This is an up-to-date, modern, and newly built theatre, with every convenience, and good stage. Any show; nothing too big.
WANTED, First-class Twice-nightly Attractions, Musical Comedies, Revues, Pantos., &c., for the above Theatre, Jan. 11, 25, Feb. 1, 8, March 22, April 19 and 26. Write full particulars, lowest share terms, to MANAGING DIRECTOR, New Palace Theatre, Arbroath.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
Written by Walter Melville.
From the Lyceum Theatre, Strand.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 11, 18, 25.
ANDREW EMM,
Lyceum Theatre, Strand.
WANTED, for Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece, "MONTE CRISTO," from the New Princes Theatre, W.C., Spring and Autumn dates.
ANDREW EMM, 7, Stanhope-road, Highgate.

CHARLES HARRINGTON
and Company,
in the Great Play,
"WHY HE DIVORCED HER."
Adapted by Arthur Shirley from the celebrated novel, "Martyre," by Adolph D'Ennery.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 11, on
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
This, Palace, Redditch.
Next, O.H., Leamington.

"EAST LYNNE."
Fifth Consecutive Year of Present Organisation.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 11 and on.
Address, J. PITT-HARDACRE.
Dec. 28, Grand T., Pentre.
Jan. 4, Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

WANTED, Jan. 11 (unexpectedly vacant), 18, onwards (?). Bigger draw than a revue. London's greatest laughing success,
"BABY MINE."
Last four weeks: Tyne, Newcastle, big business against H. B. Irving, &c. Southport, receipts go up every single night. Birkenhead, ask Mr. W. W. Kelly. Shrewsbury, last week, returning as soon as possible.
Dates, KEITH KENNETH.
This, T.R., Merthyr.
Next, Palace, Westcliff (return within six months).

HERBERT LANDECK
in
"THE SON OF A JEW."
WANTED, Jan. 11, between Halifax and Burnley, through obliging Mr. Frank Macnaghten.
Jan. 25, between Burnley and Holborn Empire.
HERBERT LANDECK,
This, Pier Pavilion, Southport.
Next, Palace Theatre, Halifax.

"DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, First-class Theatre for Feb. 8, to follow Opera House, Northampton.
Forty people travelled.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.
WANTED, Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces.
Can produce one, two, or three pieces weekly. Splendid fit-up. Special scenery. Good printing and good company guaranteed. Concluding ten weeks Stock. Vacant Jan. 4 and on. Share and small guarantee.
LATHAM, Park Hall Theatre, Abergavenny, Mon.

"THE HEADMASTER."
Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 11, on, with exceptions; also Autumn dates.
DUDLEY STUART,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

CECILE BARCLAY AND RUPERT LISTER'S COMPANIES.
The Great Patriotic Belgian Play of the Moment.
"THE TURNING POINT."
By Henri Kistemaeckers.
TWICE NIGHTLY.
Also "THE ATTACK" and
"MERELY MARY ANN." Once Nightly.
WANTED, Jan. 25, Feb. 15, various, on. Managers are invited to see it the Grand, Doncaster, Jan. 4 week.
For dates apply,
J. H. CURRY,
P.O.W. Theatre, Grimsby.

"HULLO, GIRLS!" REVUE.
WANTED, Feb. 15, 29, Easter Week; share or cert; once or twice nightly; first-class theatres only. CARTER, 3, Cross-st., Abertillery.

"WHOSE BABY?"
The Hilarious Farcical Comedy.
"On a par with the best."—Vide Press.
WANTED, Theatres and Halls, Feb. 1, 8, on.
T. MURRAY, 19, Parcliffe-place, Bradford.

THEATRES WANTED.

WILSON BENGE and FRED BULMER present the latest Romantic Patriotic Play,
"A GENTLEMAN IN KHAKI."
A Recognised Success.
Theatres already booked:—Alexandra, Birmingham; Rotunda, Liverpool; Pavilion, Liverpool; Junction, Manchester; Osborne, Manchester; Metropole, Manchester; Hippodrome, Salford; Palace, Preston; T.R., Oldham; Princes, Portsmouth; Palace, Derby; Hip., Stoke; &c., &c.
WANTED, Jan. 11 (precede Portsmouth), Vacant, Jan. 11 (precede Portsmouth), Vacant Jan. 25, Feb. 1, for this Moneymaker.
Wire for Jan. 11, between Stoke and Portsmouth, WILSON BENGE, this week, Palace Theatre, Derby. Next, Hippodrome, Stoke.

WILSON BENGE AND CHAS. GLENROSE present the Successful Play,
"THE COWBOY'S WEDDING."
The Play that always draws. Bookings: Brixton, Poplar, Hammersmith, Woolwich, Broadhead Theatres, T. Allan Edwardes' Theatres, Oldham, T.R., Leeds, Prince's, Bradford, &c., &c.
WANTED, Feb. 1, 8, 15 various onwards, including Easter week. A play full of dramatic interest and more laughs than a good many pantomimes. All communications to WILSON BENGE, this week, Palace Theatre, Derby. Next, Hippodrome, Stoke.

MISS ETHEL LODGE
holds the entire Suburban and Provincial Rights of "THE DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE."
WANTED, Wanted, Good Theatres for Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8. First-class Cast. Wire or write, LODGE, 27, Bolton-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

"WHEN PARIS SLEEPS."
"SAPHO."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls,
Jan. 25,
Jan. 25,
Feb. 1,
Feb. 1,
for either of the above tried successes.
Can also arrange two or three weeks.
JAMES BELL, T.R., Darlington.

"WITH FIRE AND SWORD."
"WITH FIRE AND SWORD."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls,
Jan. 4,
Jan. 4,
Jan. 4,
Jan. 4,
Jan. 18, Feb. 1.
One of the Finest Military Spectacular Shows Touring.
The Play of the Moment.
Played last week, New Theatre, Cambridge, TO RECORD HOUSES.
Wire for Jan. 4, Wire.
JAMES BELL, T.R., Darlington.

"THE COTTON SPINNER."
"THE COTTON SPINNER."
"THE COTTON SPINNER."
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 4, 11, 18.
Wire for Jan. 4, 11, 18.
An excellent cast. Beautifully mounted.
Wire, MARY AUSTIN,
Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

"TOMMY ATKINS."
"TOMMY ATKINS."
"TOMMY ATKINS."
WANTED, Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 15, and on.
J. FORBES KNOWLES,
This, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Next, T.R., Bury.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED, No Vacant Dates.
Special Spring Tour
of the Romantic Irish Costume Play,
"ST. PATRICK'S EVE;
OR, MAVOURNEEN."
Mr. Dennis Mackey as Terence O'More.
Specially Adapted for
Twice-nightly Theatres.
Wanted, March 29, April 5, 19, May 3, and on, with exceptions.
This week, Rostrevor, Poulton-le-Fylde.
Next week, Empire T., Belfast (annual season).

MISS IDA MILLAIS'
"A DARK SECRET" CO.
WANTED, Jan. 11, 25, Feb. 1, for this Big Dramatic Attraction.
HENRY HERNE, this week, Colosseum, Oldham.
Next week, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

THE GRAND XMAS PANTOMIME,
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 18, Feb. 1, 8, 15, for this beautiful production; 40 people; a picked cast of artistes. Produced at the New Pavilion, Morley, Leeds, Dec. 21, and pronounced by the public of Morley to be the best pantomime ever seen in Morley.
Address, BARRETT, America Moor Farm, Morley, Leeds.

"THE INDIAN SCOUT."
"THE INDIAN SCOUT."
THIRD CHRISTMAS OF THIS EVER POPULAR PLAY.
Two Years and Six Months Successful Tour, and STILL AN UNQUALIFIED ATTRACTION.
Everything carried. Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Jan. 18, between Stockton and Walthamstow,
Feb. 1, precede Grantham, Feb. 18, 19, 20 (3), Feb. 22, various onward, including Easter.
GEO. A. DE GRAY,
Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Next, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WELMANS POPULAR PANTOMIMES AND REVUES.
WANTED, big popular Theatre, Jan. 25, for our Brilliantly Successful Pantomime, "JACK AND JILL AND THE BEANSTALK." Two Pantos. rolled into one. Come and see it at the T.R., Woolwich (week), or wire Mr. Barnard for his opinion of the show. Jan. 25, Lancashire or Yorks. district.
WELMANS AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES, 24, Buckingham-st., Strand, London, W.C. 'Phone, 2257 Regent. Wires, "Lithology, London."

VENTOM SWIFT'S COMPANIES.
"ALL ABOARD."
Dec. 26, Xmas Edition, New King's Theatre, Hitchin.
WANTED Known, only vacant dates till June, Jan. 14 (three nights, between Grantham and Stanley), March 8, April 5 and 12 (North).
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Dec. 24, Production, New Hippodrome, Gateshead-on-Tyne. Only vacant dates, Jan. 18 (three nights, Midlands or Wales), and Feb. 15 (Midlands).
Coms., VENTOM SWIFT. This week and next, New Hippodrome, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

"WOMEN OF PARIS."
By Ben Landeck and Geo. Bellamy.
Authors of "Woman and Wine," "Tommy Atkins," "Vashti," &c.
The Popular Actress,
MISS EVELYN BERESFORD,
and First-class Company.
Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15.
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15.
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15.
"WOMEN OF PARIS."
Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15.
MISS EVELYN BERESFORD,
4, Upper Woburn-place, London, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Jan. 11, Jan. 18.
Jan. 11, Jan. 18.
Jan. 11, Jan. 13.
"MOTHER,"
"MOTHER,"
"MOTHER,"
Jan. 11, Jan. 25.
Jan. 11, Jan. 25.
Jan. 11, Jan. 25.
"PRIDE O' THE MILL."
"PRIDE O' THE MILL."
"PRIDE O' THE MILL."
Jan. 25, Feb. 15.
Jan. 25, Feb. 15.
Jan. 25, Feb. 15.
"THE GAMBLER."
"THE GAMBLER."
"THE GAMBLER."
Jan. 25, Feb. 8 (London).
Jan. 25, Feb. 8 (London).
Jan. 25, Feb. 8 (London).
Wire, HARRY FOXWELL, Wire, Queen Victoria-road, Blackpool.

"A PITMAN'S DAUGHTERS."
By Frank Price.
WANTED, Jan. 11, 25.
Jan. 11, 25.
Jan. 11, 25.
FRANK PRICE,
This week, Grand, Lancaster.
Next, Empire, Cradley Heath.

THE CRITERION THEATRE SUCCESS OF 1914.
"A PAIR OF SILK STOCKINGS."
WANTED, Jan. 11 and Feb. 15 (6 nights each).
Wanted, Jan. 11 and Feb. 15 (6 nights each).
Wanted, Jan. 11 and Feb. 15 (6 nights each).
Wanted, Jan. 11 and Feb. 15 (6 nights each).
Wanted, Jan. 11 and Feb. 15 (6 nights each).
Wanted, Jan. 11 and Feb. 15 (6 nights each).
COMPLETE FIRST-CLASS PRODUCTION CARRIED.
Address, CHARLES STEUART, T.R., Windsor.

"THE WHITE HOPE."
WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 11, unexpectedly vacant, between Newcastle and Wigan.
The Greatest Sporting Drama of the age.
Magnificently mounted, splendidly played.
Playing to exceptional business.
Refer Mr. T. W. Rowe, Palace Theatre, Newcastle; Mr. J. Coulson, South Shields; or any Theatre visited.
Wire immediately, Jan. 11.
"HIS LOVE FOR AN ACTRESS."
Another splendid production and big money-maker.
Vacant Feb. 1, 8, March 1, Aug. 2, onwards.
Wire immediately for both pieces to
CHARLES DRAYCOTT,
Hippodrome, Batley.

VINT AND McKENZIE, LTD.
Head office, 142, Long Acre, London, W.C.
'Phone, 9549 City. Telegrams, "Vinticon, London."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 8, only vacancy.
Feb. 8, only vacancy.
Feb. 8, only vacancy.
The enormous successful Revue,
"ALL THE NICE GIRLS."
Wanted, April 26, on.
"CINDERELLA,"
No vacant dates.
All communications to JAMES J. WELCH, C/o Vint and McKenzie, Ltd., as above.

"THE OLD ROSARY."
"THE OLD ROSARY."
WANTED, Feb. 15, 22, March 1, 8, and on, with exceptions.
Managers looking for a winner, book the above.
FRANK H. FORTESCUE, Playhouse, Stafford.

FRED LE CREN'S

Screamingly Funny Production

SINBAD

UP TO DATE.

Miss ADAH LE CREN

AS

SINBAD.

Can follow any Production.

VACANT—FEB. 15, 22,
MARCH 8, 15, 22, 29,
Easter Week.

This, Lyric, Liverpool.
Next, Hipp., Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

RAY AND CALDEN'S BIG SHOW,
"FIND THE LADY."
The reputed record breaking Musical Comedy Revue. The show of 1,000 laughs.
Broke all previous records for the week before Xmas at E., Barnsley.
(Unsolicited.)
Empire, Barnsley.
Dec. 24, 1914.

Dear Harry Ray,—
I must really compliment you on the week's business (the week before Xmas, too!), a record for that particular week. "Find the Lady" is a good comedy go ahead revue, and gave my patrons and myself every satisfaction. Let me know re a return date, and we will soon settle matters.
Wishing Mrs. Ray and yourself the Compliments of the Season,—Yours faithfully,
WILL SMITHSON.

WANTED, Music Halls and Good Twice Nightly Theatres, Feb. 1 and 8 (Midlands preferred), March 8, 22, May 17, 31 (Newcastle district). We can make money for you. Turned money away nightly at Whitehaven. Dec. 31, T.R., Coatbridge (nine nights). Booked by all astute managers. Wanted, London dates, June and July. 34 people. Augmented cast. The show that fears nothing. All songs, dialogue, &c., original. Wanted, Feb. 1, 8. Drop a line to HARRY RAY, en route.

Enormous Success.
HARRY JOSEPH
and
LENA STANTON'S PANTOMIMES.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
HARRY JOSEPH as the Dame.
EDITH DEVONSHIRE as Dick.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 18, 25, and on.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
LENA STANTON as Crusoe.
BRUCE GREEN as Dame.

Wanted, Jan. 25 and Feb. 1 and on.
This week:
Victoria Opera House, Halifax.
Next week:
New Hippodrome, Gateshead.

"AN IDEAL HUSBAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 8 (Midlands); Feb. 15 (London preferred).
H. HAMILTON STEWART,
Percy Hall, Percy-street, W.C.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE"
and
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, Feb. 22, Mar. 1 (S. Wales), March 8, 15, April 5.
HAMILTON STEWART,
Percy Hall, Percy-street, W.C.

VENTOM SWIFT'S COMPANIES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Jan. 18 (3 nights), Midlands or South Wales; Feb. 15, Midlands.
Enormous success. Managers invited to see this first-class production.
This week, New Hippodrome, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
Next week, Theatre Royal, Leigh.
"ALL ABOARD."
Wanted, Jan. 14 (3 nights), between Grantham and Stanley, March 8, April 5, 12, May 3. Christmas edition, enormous success.
This week, New King's, Hitchin.
Next week, Coliseum, Goole.
Coms., VENTOM SWIFT,
This week, New Hippodrome, Gateshead.
Next week, Theatre Royal, Leigh.

SAM LIVESEY'S DRAMATIC SUCCESS,
"A HERITAGE OF HATE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 4.
Jan. 4.
Jan. 4.
Jan. 4.
Also Jan. 25, Feb. 22, and March 8.
Wire or write,
GEO. E. CARLETON,
Grand Theatre, Luton.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Cos.
"MIRANDA OF THE WILDS."
"MIRANDA OF THE WILDS."
"MIRANDA OF THE WILDS."
"MIRANDA OF THE WILDS."
Proclaimed by Press and Public to be the finest piece ever written by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, and without doubt it is the most gorgeous production ever sent out by this firm.
Managers urgently requested to witness same.
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 15, through obliging Turner's Opera Co.

"AUSTRALIAN NELL."
"AUSTRALIAN NELL."
"AUSTRALIAN NELL."
"AUSTRALIAN NELL."
Vacant, Jan. 4, Jan. 4.
Vacant, Jan. 25, Jan. 25.
This play does draw; refer.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Vacant, Jan. 25, Jan. 25.
Two companies doing enormous business.
Packed houses at Bilston and Bordesley.
Managers requiring new, well-mounted and dressed shows can't beat the Kimberley's.
Wire, "Drama, Wolverhampton."
Letters,
Chestfield House, Penn Fields, Wolverhampton.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY.
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
One of the smartest and funniest farcical comedies of modern times.
Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Jan. 25 and Feb. 2.
Adelphi Hotel, W.C.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S COMPANIES.
"THE COLLIER'S LASS."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Feb. 15 Onwards, with exceptions.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
"HER SECRET LOVER."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Wanted, Feb. 15 on, with exceptions. Onwards with exceptions.
Mrs. Kimberley's plays are always sure winners.
BOOK THESE NOW.
Can change mid-week if desired.
Everything carried for both productions.
Write, J. NEWTON COWLING. This, Pontnewynydd Pavilion, Pontypool. Next, Pav., Morley.

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
Grand Revival of the World-renowned French Drama. Magnificent scenery and printing plant. Full production. Regarding the marked excellence of the above, refer to Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, or to Mr. John Hart.
WANTED, Jan. 4, 11, and 18. Wire immediately to J. HOWARD, Pavilion Theatre, Rhyl, North Wales.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S CO.
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, for this great Play, Jan. 4, Jan. 4, Jan. 4, through double booking, Jan. 18, Jan. 18, Jan. 18. The play that pleases everyone. Three men carried for advertising alone.
Wire, HARRY LYNDON, Paisley Theatre, Paisley.

FRANK WEATHERSBY'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
"THE SECOND IN COMMAND."
Jan. 18 on, follow Aldershot.
"PETER'S MOTHER," Jan. 11 on.
"A WOMAN'S PAST," Jan. 11 on, follow Margate.
"WHAT A MAN MADE HER," Jan. 11 on.
"OUR BOYS," Jan. 11, onward.
"TYRANNY OF TEARS," Jan. 11, on.
WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A MESSAGE FROM MARS"
(Once or Twice Nightly).
WANTED, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, 15, and 22 (three nights to precede Hereford).
Wire, 'phone or write: HORSFIELD and WOODWARD, 43, Whitcomb-street, W.C.
Telephone: Regent 5780.

THE SPECKLED BAND."
"THE SPECKLED BAND."
"THE SPECKLED BAND."
WANTED, Jan. 11, 1, and 25 (three nights to precede Cambridge); also onwards, with exceptions.
Wire, 'phone, or write: HORSFIELD and WOODWARD, 43, Whitcomb-street, W.C.
Telephone: Regent 5780.

STANLEY COOKE and Actual West-End Co., in T. W. Robertson's Military Play,
"CASTE."
Brought up to date of present year.
As new and fresh as when first produced.
The success of 1868 has been repeated in 1914.
WANTED, Jan. 25 (South or Midlands), unexpectedly Vacant.
The only vacant date this spring.
Jan. 25.
Jan. 25.
Jan. 25.
Wire or write immediately, H. MOSLEY, Central House, Golders Green, N.W.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for La Comédie Anglaise Fit-up Tour, Young Lady for Small Parts and good Understudies; to Sing preferred. Must be refined, dress parts correctly, and have clear speaking voice. Also good opening for Amateur; excellent opportunity for one with little experience to gain more in splendid repertoire. Address, with photographs (imperative), MR. W. L. DOBELL, National Theatre, Thurles, Ireland.

Stock Season.
THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, First-class Heavy Lady, Aristocratic Heavy Gentleman, Juvenile and Character Gentlemen; rehearse Jan. 4, open Jan. 11. ALBERT SEMBER, Lothian, Stranraer.

WANTED, Smart Juvenile Lady for Light Comedy Part; also Small Part Ladies.
Open at once.
KARNO, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED (rehearse immediately, Midlands), Young Juvenile Lady, Chambermaid (sing and dance well preferred), Gentlemanly Heavy Man, Juvenile Man (sing preferred), Aristocratic Old Lady and Gent, Walking Gentleman, two Responsible Men and Responsible Lady. REYNOLDS, Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, Tall, Good-looking Young Lady, for Responsible Part; also Gentleman for Dude Part. No callers. G. MARRIOTT, 33a, Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

Mr. C. Watson Mill's Cos.
"IN TIME OF WAR."
WANTED, to rehearse next week, Smart Soubrette, Chambermaid; must sing (not dance). Fullest pars., photos., refs., &c. C. WATSON MILL, Royal, Barnsley. Next, Alex., Widnes.

"FACE AT THE WINDOW" CO.
WANTED, to rehearse Monday, Good Juvenile Man.
Full particulars, terms, &c., to
F. MARRIOTT WATSON, Tasma, Seaview, I.W.

FRANK H. FORTESCUE'S TOUR.
WANTED, Good Funny Comedian; rehearse at once; also good Young Responsible Gent. (to double). Wire, lowest war terms, to FRANK H. FORTESCUE, White Hart Hotel, Stafford.
Also Juvenile Gent write.

WANTED, Young Actor, for Assistant Stage-management and Understudy; might arange joint understudy. Write lowest salary and full particulars, with photos, to H. MOSLEY, Central House, Golders Green, N.W.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"A DARK SECRET."
WANTED, to rehearse immediately, through releasing, Heavy Man, Juvenile Leading Lady, to enter tank,
Carpenter to play small part.
Wire, HENRY HERNE, Colosseum, Oldham.

WANTED, Tall Man for small dumb part in sketch; everything found; rehearse Sunday and open Monday next, near Manchester; one week. HEILBRONN, Theatre Royal, Consett.

WANTED, a smart young Gent, used to playing any character part, for sketch.
Must be sober and reliable, and dress well on and off, or no use.
Small parts, but important, and reasonable terms.
Good, comfortable shop to right man.
Apply, with photo., age, and last reference, and English, to
CHARLIE BELL, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, really good Juv., Heavy Gent., immediately; Sketches. Age, height, photos, terms, refs.,
WILSON, Coliseum, Cwm, Mon.

WANTED, Wanted, Juvenile Gentleman, tall, refined.
Apply personally, Thursday next, 2 o'clock.
HAMILTON STEWART,
Percy Hall, Percy-street, W.C.

WANTED, Two Juvenile Gentlemen (one character gentleman, one utility gentleman). All must be first-class and able to rehearse and open at once.
KARNO, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to rehearse immediately, sound, pathetic Old Man actor, with small double; first-class emotional acting essential. Wire or write, giving height, refs., &c. WARD, Hippodrome, Bilston.

WANTED, a Juvenile Gentleman, rehearse this week, Redditch. Terms, photo, particulars,
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Palace Theatre, Redditch.

WANTED, smart Juvenile, also Utility Gentleman (small parts), for Tour; also character Actor and Young Ingenue (fair). Call or write, HORSFIELD and WOODWARD, 43, Whitcomb-street, W.C.

WANTED, to join at once, good Juv. Gent., also Character; used to rep.; long tour. Address, lowest terms, refs., &c., BECKETT, The Square, Framlingham, Suffolk. Wire or write, Money returned if not suitable.

"WITH FIRE AND SWORD."
WANTED, to rehearse immediately, Strong Character Actor, to double King and Bishop.
Address full particulars, photo, ANNIE BELL, New Theatre, Cambridge.

"THE GAMBLER."
WANTED, Young Character Actor, Carpenter to play small parts, Baggage Man to play small parts; all to rehearse immediately, Stockton. Photos, references, HARRY FOXWELL, Queen Victoria-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Tall Knockabout Dude, for Boxing Act; rehearse at once.
Terms, &c., GORDON RAY,
9, Telford-avenue, Streatham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Responsible Man to Play Small Parts and Combine Baggage.
Must be an abstainer.
Lowest terms, ref., and photo, to
HERBERT SHELLEY, T.R., Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, Leading Man and Heavy Man, Juvenile Lady, Responsible Man, also Child Actress, for two special weeks; rehearse Ireland, Monday or Tuesday next. Terms, photos, and references, C. F. WRIGHT, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Stock Season.
WANTED, good Character Actor. Terms, refs., photos.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, T.R., Middlesbrough.

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NEW VAUDEVILLE PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, to open beginning Feb., for long tour, Artistes all Lines, for new Revue. Absolute lowest, &c., to GENERAL MANAGER, 9, Redcliffe-st., Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Principals and Chorus for Revue; tour; must have good voices.
Full pars., photo, lowest terms,
MANAGER, 3, Cross-st., Abertillery.

WANTED, Full Dramatic Company; join at once; dress well; young.
Wire, lowest,
COURTENAY, Post Office, Strathavon.

WANTED, Smart Dancers, immediately, to complete Troupe for London.
SYDNEY RUSSELL,
185, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Smart Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; must rehearse and open at once.
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ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED Known, at liberty, American Characters, Pianist, Stage Direct, Specialities; late of "Girl in Taxi," "Climax," others. B. V. Maguire, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, by a young man of good appearance (age 22), Engagement, to Play in Sketches and make himself useful. Leeds district preferred. W. L., 4, Belgrave-street, Leeds.

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WANTED, to open immediately, smart Principal Girl and clever Comedian for panto.; also Chorus Ladies and Gents. Full particulars, photos, lowest terms, refs., &c., to MADGE FENTON, Mason's Cottage, South-street, Spennymoor, Co. Durham. Good Carpenter write (Dick Armstrong wire if disengaged).

WANTED, Sextette or Octette, also Single Dancers, also Second Boy; all must send photo, age, height, terms, in first instance. Apply, HARRY JOSEPH, Victoria Opera House, Halifax.

WANTED, Immediately, Four Chorus Ladies, good voices and appearance; also Two Lady Dancers; to form Quartette. Full particulars, photos, LOCKSTONE, Victoria Hall, Lye, Worcester.

WANTED, Six Chorus Ladies to rehearse at once.
Apply, stating lowest terms, refs, &c.,
JAZON,
Empire, Stockport.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, Etc., WANTED.

CINEMA OR STAGE.
WANTED Known, Guides to the above sent free. No beginners should miss reading same. They explain everything. GRAHAM AND CO., 295, Kennington-road, S.E. 'Phone, 759 Hop.

WANTED, Beginners, Amateurs; everything supplied. Tuition and rehearsals free. Dancing taught. Also for cinema acting. Trial free. Write, MANAGER, 46, Knowle-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Gentlemen, not over 5ft. 6in., Students and Amateurs, for few one-night shows in London; evening rehearsals.
Write, A. H., 49c, Trinity-square, Borough, S.E.

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Possibly Vacant Jan. 25 and on.

PRINCIPALS: Lola Patey, Nora Martyn, Rita Rhylle, Norah Neville, Alva Harvey, Bros. Hannaway, Sid Kearns, O'Keefe, George Campbell, Kisby the Call-Boy, F. W. Pedgrift, Herbert Stanton, Albert Jackson.

FULL CHORUS

THE RANCH GIRL

Musical Drama.
VACANT.

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Strong Domestic Drama.
Jan. 4: T.R., WOOLWICH. VACANT: Jan. 11.

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WANTED, Experienced Manager for Publicity and Variety Dept. Write, stating age, salary required, and full particulars, to Box 7,631, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Young Acting Manager, with good appearance and address. Apply personally between 12 and 3, WELMANS, 24, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a Smart, Active, Experienced Working Agent, for Important Pantomime Tour. Call immediately, GRANGE, T.R., Woolwich.

WANTED, Operator (Assistant), to combine other duties. Apply, MANAGER, The Playhouse, Hither Green, S.E., 10 to 1 p.m., 6 to 10 p.m., or 'phone Lee Green 1773 between these hours.

JAZON AND MONTGOMERY'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-class Carpenter, touring pantomime; open immediately; must be capable man. Terms, references, &c., JAZON AND MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Carpenter, Bench Hand, own tools (Baggage Man travelled); must be clean shaven and capable of few lines; abstainer pref.; open Belfast, Jan. 4. Terms, latest refs. (with addresses), height, age, and all pars., OHALMERS MACKEY, Rostrevor, Poulton-le-Fylde. Next, Empire, Belfast.

"A DARK SECRET."
WANTED, Carpenter, with tools, to open at once; play small part. Age, height, terms, references, HENRY HERNE, Colosseum, Oldham.

WANTED, join immediately, Carpenter; combine baggage and capable of speaking lines; capable and temperate men only. Write or wire, stating age, height, and references to T. E. WARD, Hippodrome, Bilston.

WANTED, a thoroughly reliable practical Carpenter; own tools; highest references. Apply, two o'clock, Thursday next, H. HAMILTON STEWART, Percy Hall, Percy-st., Tottenham Court-rd.

"THE COLLIER'S LASS" CO.
WANTED, First-class Carpenter; tall; own tools; open Monday; capable Small Parts. Latest refs., photos, &c., to J. NEWTON COWLING. This, Pontnewynydd Pavilion, Pontypool. Next, Pavilion, Morley.

"THE OLD HOME."
WANTED, to open immediately (through releasing), sound, reliable, temperate Carpenter, to combine baggage (own tools), to speak one or two lines. Age, height, last two references, with addresses. Absolute lowest crisis terms (long tour), E. A'DELL, T.R., Tyldesley, Lancs.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's "Proof" Co.
WANTED, Carpenter; own tools; good bench hand; capable Small Part; open Ashington, Jan. 11. Apply, R. PITTARD, 13, Clark-street, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Carpenter (with tools) to combine Baggage at once. State terms, two recent references. GEORGE WATERS, New Theatre, Salisbury.

WANTED, Reliable Carpenter, own tools, young, speak a few lines. Particulars, age, height, references, terms, CHARLES HARRINGTON, Palace, Redditch.

WANTED, to open Monday next, Man for baggage and properties, on tour; must be willing, strictly sober, and respectable; accustomed to good companies, and possess first-class references. Address, with full particulars, Box 7,645, "The Era."

WANTED, Billposter-Doorman for Picture Show in London; to make himself generally useful; must be young, tall, and teetotaler. Letters only, 1, Priory-mansions, England's-lane, Hampstead. An Assistant Operator also write; wages 20s.

WANTED, Immediately, Ten Real Good Window Billers. Apply, HERBERT S. CRUMP, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, Thursday morning.

WANTED, Billposter, to combine Attendant; thoroughly experienced with Brush and Window Billing. Apply, MANAGER, The Playhouse, Hither Green, S.E., 10 to 1 a.m., 6 to 10 p.m., or 'phone Lee Green 1773 between these hours.

WANTED, Cleaners, Attendants. Apply, MANAGER, The Playhouse, Hither Green, S.E., 10 to 1 a.m., 6 to 10 p.m.; or 'phone, Lee Green 1773 between these hours.

WANTED, Wanted, Smart Youth, for Box Office. Shorthand and typewriting essential. Address, with references, Hippodrome, Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Travel, Secretary (male), with knowledge of typewriting and shorthand. Write, with full particulars, and stating lowest salary, and if more than one language, to Box 7,648, "The Era."

WANTED Known, to Let, the Services of W. C. BURNS, the well-known Manager, Resident, rail or road. Over 20 years' exp.; life abstainer; highest refs. 8, Parliament-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED Known, Thoroughly Experienced Manager, Disengaged (through bombardment), Pictures, Varieties, Drama; 10 years' experience; keen advertiser; a hustler; highest references. Offers. HARDENE, 5, Valley Bridge-parade, Scarborough.

WANTED, Position, Stage Manager or Carpenter; Resident or Tour; practical and reliable. HUGHES, 105, Walkden-road, Higher Worsley, Manchester.

WANTED, by Gentleman (23), of several years' experience in all departments of large West-End Music Hall, position in any capacity, where trust and responsibility is valued; low salary to commence; undeniable refs. Box 7,644, "The Era."

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WANTED, First-class Pianist Conductor; must be equally good at Pictures and Variety; must have good library and keep same up to date. One that can play organ preferred. Small town on South Coast. Send lowest terms and copies of refs. to Box 7,647, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductor, for Sketch Revue (Tour); to open at once. Apply, KARNO, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, smart, reliable Pianist-Conductor for Panto. Tour; open immediately. Wire, CONDUCTOR, Mason's Cottage, South-street, Spennymoor.

WANTED, start Saturday, Leader-Conductor; Cinema, Variety; two sessions daily. Only efficient need apply. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Regent Theatre, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Leader. Must be experienced at Pictures. Apply with terms, JACK GOLD, Musical Director, British Cinema, 324, Harrow-road, W.

WANTED, First Violin, with good Library, for Trio, Vio., 'Cello and Piano. Apply, MANAGER, The Playhouse, Hither Green, S.E., 10 to 1 a.m., 6 to 10 p.m., or 'phone Lee Green 1773 between these hours.

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WANTED, First Violinist; must have big tone; open immediately. Apply, JACK GOLD, Musical Director, British Cinema, 324, Harrow-road, W.

HIPPODROME, DERBY.
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WANTED, First Violin (lady or gent.), orchestral (selections, overtures); very pleasant work; commence Saturday; £1 weekly; London, permanent. Write to Box 7,635, "The Era."

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Applicants required to attend audition in Liverpool or London.

State age, experience, and give two responsible references for personal character.

Apply by letter, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

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WANTED, 'Cello; experienced orchestral player; Pictures, West Coast, Scotland. Write, CON WILLIAMS, 347, Victoria-road, Glasgow.

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WANTED, Lady Flautist for Orchestral Concert Tour in Ireland; starting Saturday. MURIEL JACK, Van Buren Cottage, Barnes. 'Phone, 217 Putney.

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WANTED, Flautist and Solo Cornet, at once. Age, terms, recent Variety references. SHACKLETON.

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WANTED, Brilliant Orchestral Pianist to open immediately. Apply, JACK GOLD, Musical Director, British Cinema, 324, Harrow-road, W.

WANTED, 'Cellist-Relief Pianist (Lady or Gent.) for Trio; Pictures; West London suburb. Write or call, afternoon. SMART, Acton Cinema, Horn-lane, Acton, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Pianist, for Pictures and Varieties, to tour Ireland. Open Monday, Jan. 4. Lowest terms, R. SILVESTER, Picture House, Carlow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Drummer. Open Monday. Apply, ROEDER, Pavilion, Barnsley.

WANTED, Wanted, Musicians, LONDON WELSH BATTALION, LORD KITCHENER'S ARMY. One Tenor Trombone, one Bass Trombone, one E flat Bass, two First B flat Clarinets. Apply to-day, J. WHITE, Field Court, Grays Inn, Holborn, London, or write.

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WANTED Immediately, Violiniste Leader, 2nd Violin, 'Celliste and Pianiste (Ladies). Experienced Pictures or useless. Call at audition, Thursday, 3 o'clock, 25, Guildford-street, Russell-square, W.C.

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WANTED Known, Musical Director. Late of the Savoy, Glasgow, and Finsbury Park Empire (Moss' Empires); disengaged in February next. At present at Brighton under special pantomime engagement. Age 26. Total abstainer. Very excellent credentials. FRED SAKER, Theatre Royal, Brighton.

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WANTED, by smart, experienced Pianist-Conductor, permanent Post where good music is required and appreciated. Varieties, drama, pictures, or any business. Splendid library; highest references. GRAHAME, 31, Woodfield Cross, Tredegar, Mon.

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WANTED Known, LILIAN BRION, Violiniste Leader and Soloist, disengaged for few weeks. 14, Hargrave-mansions, Upper Holloway, N.

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WANTED, Engagement by thoroughly experienced, reliable Violinist; Leader or Repertoire; highest refs. For terms, &c., apply, VIOLINIST, 48, Kingsland-crescent, Barry Dock, S. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement by a really good Violinist; Leader; smart and brilliant; good sight reader; large classic and modern rep.; first-class café, hotel, or high-class cinema preferred; own orchestra if required. Box 7,642, "The Era."

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WANTED, by smart young Violinist, Engagement in London or Suburbs; experienced in Picture work; fine tone. Terms very moderate. Write, VIOLINIST, 54, High-st., Marylebone, W.

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WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet; first class experiences; all lines; good soloist; highest references. Address, CORNET, 9, St. James's-gardens, Brighton.

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WANTED, Engagement by good Clarinet; experienced; any business. 'Cellist requiring deputy please write. W. F., 8, Senrab-street, London, E.

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WANTED, Engagement by Reliable Trombonist; any business; excellent refs.; first-class offers only; Scotland or North; A.M.U. CHARLES PENNEY, 5, Queen-street, Mansfield.

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WANTED, Engagement, at once, by Belgian Pianist and Organist; excellent sight reader and accompanist; Orchestral or otherwise, for Variety, Cinema, Hotel, Club, Restaurant, or Café; London or Suburbs. Write, JULIEN MOEREMANS, Poste Restante, 149, Regent-street, London.

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WANTED, by Experienced Pianist; Pictures, Variety; Sight Reader MSS.; exceptional refs.; good library. WOODWARD CROUCH, 5, Victoria-street, Redditch.

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WANTED, by an Experienced Drummer, Engagement. Good references. W. BURTON, 20, Seaside-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Tympanist, Double Drums, Glockenspiel, &c. H. ROPER, 61, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, N.W.

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WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, for HENGLER'S CIRCUS, GLASGOW, HENGLER'S CIRCUS, GLASGOW, HENGLER'S CIRCUS, GLASGOW, HENGLER'S CIRCUS, GLASGOW, HENGLER'S CIRCUS, GLASGOW, HENGLER'S CIRCUS, GLASGOW, FIRST-CLASS HORSE ACTS, FIRST-CLASS HORSE ACTS, FIRST-CLASS HORSE ACTS, FIRST-CLASS HORSE ACTS, FIRST-CLASS HORSE ACTS, FIRST-CLASS HORSE ACTS, To Open Immediately. To Open Immediately. Full particulars and Lowest Terms for Month Certain, with option, MANAGER, HENGLER'S, GLASOW.

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WANTED, Wanted, Five Grooms, immediately. Must be steady and reliable. Address, J. SWALLOW, 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

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WANTED, Wanted, Artistes. Immediate and Future Dates. Send full list of bookings, &c., BARNEY ARMSTRONG, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. SCOTCH KELLY. No Vacancies. Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Everybody to Read this Advert. A Happy New Year to All. WILL OLIVER, Variety Agent; but there, possibly you have heard of him before. W. O. can do with New Acts, Comedy preferred. I have put a few there; I can easily do it again. But, remember, acts like ourselves grow old in time. Good, reliable turns known to me, not exclusively represented, send along full particulars of 1914 and 1915. All coms., WILL OLIVER, 40, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

JOHN E. WEST'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, 144, Wellington-street, Glasgow. 'Phone, 744 Douglas.
WANTED, Wanted, Acts, All Lines, Good Comedy Acts, &c. List of bookings and absolute lowest terms.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted, Wanted, Versatile Comedy and Musical Acts, IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE. MACQUEEN'S AGENCY, 81, London-street, Glasgow. 'Phone, 375 Bell.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY, 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow. Telegrams, "Cockney, Glasgow." 'Phone, 1075 Charing Cross.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Artistes in all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. Also Pantomimes, Revues, and Acts with a Name, for all parts of the country. Send full pars. Lowest terms first letter, or useless writing. Representatives all over the country.

WANTED, Wanted, Tops, Bottoms, and Variety Artistes of all Descriptions, for present and future dates. Nothing too big, nothing too small. Can place Acts at once at Manchester, Liverpool, Dublin, Belfast, Newcastle, Derby, Stoke, Glossop, Nottingham, &c. Stars, Revues, and Pantomimes, on Share or Certainty. Address, F. ELDRIDGE. London Vaudeville Agency, 20, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Wires, "Lognellos, Westrand, London." 'Phone, Regent 2996.

FORESTERS' VARIETIES. Cambridge-road, Mile End, E.
WANTED, Trial Turns, Thursday, Dec. 31, and every Thursday at 2 p.m. Fares paid. Money prizes and 8 weeks' engagements to those suitable. Write, FRED DURHAM, Variety Agent, 8/3, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

Telegrams, "Jovial, Glasgow." Telephone, Douglas, 3197 Glasgow. SYD HERMAN AND CO., 95, Bath-street, Glasgow.
WANTED, Big Tops, and Acts All Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Absolute lowest terms, blank memo, and date sheet, also fullest particulars. Manager, MAURICE HERMAN.

WANTED, Acts of every Description. Can place anything if it be good. Immediate work for good Musical Acts. Abs. lowest, date sheet, printing, and full particulars in first letter, to CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY, 42, Chester-road, Sunderland.

THE IMPERIAL VARIETY AGENCY, NOTTINGHAM AND NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, for Jan. 4, 11, onwards, Big Tops with drawing powers for first-class towns in the Eastern Counties and Midlands. Also good Sister Turns, Musical Acts, Juveniles, Comedy Acts. Terms, full list bookings. Permanent address, 32a, Shakespeare-street, Nottingham. 'Phone 4,854. Wires, "Expert." Contracts await Boissets, Douglas's Merry Demons. Wire addresses.

WANTED, for Monday next, Double Acts of any description. Good Musical or Comedy Double Act. Must be new to Penarth. Wire or write particulars to ESMONDE, 87, Duffryn-street, or New Theatre, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Wanted, Variety Artistes of all descriptions. Immediate dates for good acts if terms are right. Apply, J. BRAVERY, Palace, Poole, Dorset.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, STAR COMEDIANS, STAR COMEDIENNES, BIG COMEDY ACTS, BIG SPECIALITIES, AND ANYTHING THAT IS NEW, NOVEL, AND SENSATIONAL, Jan. 11, 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, on. Dates terms &c. WILL SLEY 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

MILNE'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, 135, Wellington-street, Glasgow.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Acts of Every Description for Immediate Dates. Troupes, Doubles, Sisters. Specialities able to work on small stages. Lowest war salaries. No shares. Lithos, photos, and date sheets first letter. Old clients keep me posted. Acts for Ireland write. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone, 6936 City.
WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, All Lines Comedy Acts, Specialities, Comedians, Comediennes. Jan. 11, onwards. Terms, bookings, &c., to EDGAR STEBBINGS, as above.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for THEATRE ROYAL, WINCHESTER. Good Comedy Speciality Acts for Monday next and on. Wire immediately absolute lowest. SIMPKINS, Manager, Theatre Royal.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Wanted, for Jan. 11, Really Good Comedy Acts, Big Animal Specialities, and Novelties of every Description. Also Big Acts, with strong magnetic drawing powers, required for the following dates, Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1, onward. Address, with lowest war terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

MAJOR ARNOLD'S AGENCY. Palace, Sale, near Manchester.
WANTED, Big Acts. Jan. 11, 18. No. co-op. Full salaries.

GAIETY THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Big Acts, Salary or Shares; also Variety Artistes in all lines known to Will Hebden, Jan. 11, onwards. Agents seen any night during show. B. KENNEDY, Gaiety, Birmingham.

THE CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY, MERTHYR TYDVIL. Director, Israel Price. Sole Representative, I. Price, jun.
WANTED, Acts of Every Description, Big, Medium, and Small. Revues and Pantomimes. Send full list of dates, terms, and lithos, &c. Silence a polite negative. Kindly keep us posted. Telegraphic address, "Canolybryn." Telephone, 77 Merthyr. Chief office, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydvil.

KENNEDY'S MIDLAND CIRCUIT.
WANTED, BIG ACTS, Salary or Shares, for KENNEDY'S NEW EMPIRE, WEST BROMWICH, GAIETY, BIRMINGHAM, and EMPIRE, SMETHWICK. Also Artistes, All Lines, for Kennedy Circuit, Jan. 11, onwards. B. KENNEDY, Empire, Smethwick.

FOLKESTONE, HASTINGS, AND EASTBOURNE THEATRES.
WANTED, Big Revues, Variety Combinations, &c., from Jan. 18, onwards. MUST BE FIRST-CLASS ONLY. H. W. ROWLAND, Coronet Theatre, W.

WANTED, at once, good Girl Soprano, for Music Hall Scena. Send lowest terms, photo, LAW, Oxford Pictures, Lochie, Dundee.

WANTED, to Tour small places, Very Smart Conjurer, presenting a refined entertainment, good tricks, and pretty effects in magic. 6, Clifton-road, Liverpool, E.

WANTED, to open Monday, at Dundee, for Music Hall Scena, Young Lady Vocalist; Dancer preferred. Lowest terms, photo, live in; long engagement. MONA CLARK'S Palace, Peterhead, Scotland.

WANTED, Wanted, a Tumbler. Straight or Comedy. State tricks, age, height, and terms. Must be British. Particulars in first letter. Box 7,643, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 4 and 11 (North), by PHAROS. Shares or Salary. Good Printing. Exceptional Draw. Wire, Buffalo Palace, Ashington.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 11, Jan. 11, WILFRED FORD, Novelty Magical Humorist. This, Hippo., Wisbech. Next, Em., Stamford.

WANTED Known, vacant Monday next, also Jan. 18. MME. MIZUAH. Second-Sight Act. Second-Sight Act. World's Premier Second-Sight Artiste. World's Premier Second-Sight Artiste. AN ACT THAT DRAWS. Sensational advertising matters. Salary or shares. Smart single if required. Wire or write, Picturedrome, Arnold, Notts.

WANTED, Jan. 4, Feb. 1, 8, FOUR MYSTIC SAXBYS, FOUR MYSTIC SAXBYS, Late Mystic Dekolza. The big Head Liner Illusory Show. WALLUS, the Ventriloquist. MISS V. MORAY, Dainty Comedienne. This combination made a record at Playhouse, Lydney. Complimented by Mr. Jacobs. Wire to Cinema, Cinderford, Glos.

WANTED, Monday, by ALMORE, with living Marionettes, in smart songs and dances; also KITTY REYNOLDS, popular Chorus Comedienne. For two winners, wire, Picturedrome, Holmfirth, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next, JAAP VAN LAREN, Dutch Comedian on the Slack Wire in a Cheese Market. This, Empire, Rochdale. Wire, House Address, 22, Macmillan-street.

WANTED, Jan. 4 and 11, by LILLIAN SIVADO. Sensational Gymnast, on her Electric Fit-up, assisted by Miss May. Also MARIE ALLAN. Dainty Comedienne. Wire, Picture Palace, Stamford, Lincs.

Wanted Advertisements Continued on Col. 2, Page 85.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1915.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies, or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Merrylees and MacIntosh.
HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Tom Leonies, Moxon Trio, Neil and Davis, Will Douglas's Merry Demons, Baker and Balfe, pictures, Robb and Dixon, Lily and It.
HAMILTON VICTORIA HALL.—Pictures.
IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Edward Morris presents "Aladdin" pantomime.
NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Diving Girls and Seals, Grace Stoll, Jess and Tony, Alcide Capitaine, Bert Eden, Archie Naish, "Topical Times," Binns and Binns.
PAISLEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Graham Moffat's company, Olive Weir, Fields and Fields, The Mezzettis, pictures, Kamakura Family.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM (rehearsal, 12).—The Five Greenlees, Mowbray Boys.
BIRMINGHAM GAIETY (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—The Sutcliffe Family, J. J. Mannix, Will S. Dyke, Learto, Harry Kirk and Co., Harry Matto.
CANNOCK HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Mr. Frank Mundill's Co. in "A Texas Ranger."
SMETHWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Dave Elliott, &c.
TIPTON TIVOLI (rehearsal, 5).—The Adams Trio, Maudie Goodman, Hal Bryan.
WEDNESBURY KING'S (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—The Two Le Bruns, The Four Singing Miners.
WEST BROMWICH NEW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—Company booked.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Geo. Pickett and Mary Mayfren's Co., "The Frenchwoman," Binns and Binns, Jack Norworth, Billie Burke, Amasis, King and Benson, Dick Tubb, Daisy Stratton, Lollette and Lord, Bioscope.
CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—Alec Flood and Pierre de Reeder's Co., "Robinson Crusoe," F. V. St. Clair, Edna Payne, Arthur d'Orville, Bioscope.
EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Grossmith and Laurillard's Co., "Potash and Perlmutter."
EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Marie Lloyd, Ernie Lotinga and Co., in "Bluebottles," Gearge d'Albert, Jean Schwiller, Tom Stuart, Austen Temple, Walter Emerson, Gwennie Hasto, Louis Victor and Partner, Bioscope.
METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Miss Hilda Glyder and Co., in "Le Petit Cabaret," Gladys Purnell and Co., in "Wm. 'Enery's Wedding," Edna Payne, The Eleven Romps, Halma, The Diddle 'Ums, Jesse Jacobsen, Bioscope.
SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—The Jewells, The Four Londons, Janette Denarber, E. Thornley-Dodge, Florence Cooper, The Eleven Romps, Gerald Arnoldi, Beth Tate, The Dublin Desmonds, Bioscope.
TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 2).—Alhambra Company, Ltd., "Keep Smiling," Billy Beadell, Harry Bedford, Nell Derry, Bioscope.
WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1). — Arthur Rigby's Co., "Little Red Riding Hood."
WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—Joe Peterman's Co., "The Stationmaster," "The Hairdresser," "Britannia's Honour," Jenny Robbins, Kenneth Seymour, Frank Wood, Mabel Thorne, Bioscope.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Pictures.
BLACKBURN.—Rowland, Three Ernests, Renee Grahame, Penman and Miller, Yettmah, Syd Moorhouse, Madge Velma, Larkum Bros., Johnson Clark, pictures.
BRADFORD.—Felix and Fisher, Kordy Trio, Alf Woods and company, The Howards, Laurette and Laurel, Fred Bluette, Lawley and East, pictures.
BURNLEY.—Montgomery and Jazon's "Dick Whittington."
CARLISLE.—Alex Lawson, Ellis Barrieton, Campbell and Scott, Cameo, Burnetti, Cuningham and Cressall, Alberta Flahey, Charburn's Stars, pictures
HALIFAX.—Arthur Ferriss, Charlene and Charlene, Richardson's Daffodils, Masques, Day and Deen, Vic and Vie, Snaefells, "Son of a Jew," pictures.
HUDDERSFIELD.—Alfred Swift, Billy Hale, Lena Bluette, Bramusas, T. Elder Hearn, pictures.
LINCOLN.—Lee Ephraim's company, Bobbie Thornton, "The World at War," Americ and Ainslie, Kitchin and Roy, Elsie Cross, Elvin and Chip, Crawford and Howard, pictures.
SOUTHAMPTON.—Vinettos, J. and L. Grand, Wal Townsend, Thornbury, Norman Donald, Alva York, Sydney Lynn and company, Jan Rudenyi, pictures.
SOUTHPORT.—Bros. Leo, Raymond Trio, Columbia Trio, Ed. E. Ford, Dorothy Quire, Sam Hilton, Mary Moran, My Fancy, Ninette, pictures.
WARRINGTON.—Will Hay, Hymar and Metford, Jack Walsh, Rosie Reys, Nelson Trio, "Steam Laundry," Fred Munson, Belgians, pictures.
Blackburn bars Darwen and Accrington.
Burnley bars Nelson, Accrington, and Colne.
(Rehearsals for all halls at 12 o'clock).

MOSS' EMPIRES.

BELFAST EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Company as booked.
BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"What Would You Do?" French Turco-Arabs, Eric Godley, Dave Samuels, Will Van Allen, Kasracs, Bioscope, Dolly Elsworthy.
BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Gerald Griffin, Denziloe Trio, Austin and Lawton, Will Gardner, Three Theodorowitch, Cassie Walmer, Bioscope, Bradshaw Brothers.
BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Company as booked.
BRADFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Horace Hunter, Selbit's "Shadow People," Trumpeter Henri Greve, Bioscope, Gus Garrick, Pasquali Brothers, Donald and Carson.
CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Jock McKay, Belle Davis, Aldon and Loupe, Bioscope, Chas. Mildare, Kavanaghs, Irma Lorraine.
CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—Company as booked.
CARDIFF PANOPTICON (rehearsal, 1).—Company as booked.
DUBLIN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Three Hylands, Edna Lyall, Coquelli, Des Desborough, Almas, Empirescope, Pathé Gazette.
EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Fred and May "Mumming Birds," Vernon Watson, Bioscope, Braine and Reeve, the Mountfords, Athas and Collins.
FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Chas. Cohan, Trio Belge, Bioscope, Fred Russell, Joe and Willie, George Lashwood, Shirley Kellogg, Edith Fink.
GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."
GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Barry Raine, Piquays, Bioscope, Stanelli and Carados, Larry Lewis, Ernest Krake, Violet Stockelle, Victoria Monks.
GLASGOW GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Company as booked.
HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Mark Sheridan, Terry and Lambert, Selbit's "Spirit Paintings," Fred Durant, Sinclair's Three Diamonds, Rosie Archer, Carr Lynn, Bioscope, Clive and Bunyea.
LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"The Red Heads," Christy and Willis, Bioscope, Mason and Bart, Talbot O'Farrel, Quaint Q's.
LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Venus, Ltd.," Bioscope.
LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—Hannefords, Griffiths Bros., Capt. Taylor's Four Rascals, Tschinn Maa Troupe, Benedetti Bros., Marquise Dassie, Walton's Dogs, Gudzow, Woodward's Seals, Ping and Pong, Miss Silvani.
LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal 10).—"Business as Usual," and Star Company.
NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Frank and Vesta, 5 Symphony Girls, Harry Herbert, Bioscope, "Honeymoon Express."
NEWCASTLE NEW EMPIRE CINEMA.—Picture entertainment.
NEW CROSS BROADWAY (rehearsal, 1).—Pantomime, "Cinderella."
NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Chas. Whittle, Molly Wells, Tom Jones, Evelyn and Clayton Bioscope, "Beauties."
NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Brown, Bioscope, Artois Bros., Conway George, "Parlez Vous Francais?"
NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Sammy Shields, Rose Sartella, Four Swifts, Mannie Gilbert, Bioscope, "The Follies."
NOTTINGHAM GRAND THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Goody Two Shoes."
SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Passing Events," Bioscope, Jock Whiteford, Chas. Vincent, Dolly Victoria Troupe.
SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Chung Ling Soo, Phil and Phlora, Jack Murray, Huley and Bent, etc.
STOKE NEWINGTON ALEXANDRA THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—Ona and Isolde, Correa and La Criolitta, Volta and Maude, and picture entertainment.
STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Maud Courtney and Mr. C., Bioscope, Harry Atkinson, Frank Le Dent, "The Case of Johnny Walker," Zigeuner Quartette, Scott and Whaley, Gertie Gitana.
SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Fight Prizer," Freddie Hackin, Musical Johnstons, Griff, etc.
SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Vera Wootton, Eddie Astor, O'Gorman Bros., Bioscope, Harlequinaders, Phil Ray, Carson and Bryan.
WALSALL GRAND PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 1).—Company as booked.
WALSALL HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Company as booked.
WALSALL IMPERIAL HALL (rehearsal, 1).—Picture entertainment, illustrated songs, etc.
WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Should a Woman Tell?" Magini, Lillian Carter, Jack Thomas, etc.

STANLEY ROGERS' TOUR.

BLAYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Fanny Humber, company as booked.
SILKSWORTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 5).—Metropole Stock Co.
WHITEHAVEN THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal, 5).—Les Nozollos, Arthur Canworth, Sados.
WORKINGTON CARNEGIE HALL (rehearsal, 3).—Bernard Ash Quartette, Arthur Pearl, company as booked.

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—"Jack and Jill." Bioscope.
BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Oscar Layton, Ernie Ream, "Say When," Bioscope.
CHATHAM EMPIRE.—J. H. Scotland, "Parker on the Panel," Morton and Bowman, James Stewart, Bioscope.
CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Terry Twins, Jack Lorimer, "Papering a House," Wirth Family, Van Camp Pigs, Evans and Holland, Bioscope.
HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Thornton and Wagner, Edris Coombs Trio, the Craggs, Tom and Baby, the Dennisons, Bioscope.
LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.—Pictures.
LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Happy Tom Parker, Chatam, Cooper and Lait, Chris Van Bern, Cissie Curlette, Bioscope.
LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Irene Vanbrugh, Norman McKinnel and Co. in Barrie's "Der Tag," Mme. Lydia Yavorska and Co. in "For Russia," Alfred Lester, Spizzi's Patriotic Chorus, Imperial Russian Ballet, Cooper Mitchell, Haley's Juveniles, Hanlon Bros. and Co., Ginnett's Boy Army, Bioscope
MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Thora, Daisy Sloan, Cornalla and Eddie, Bioscope.
THE NEW MIDDLESEX.—Varieties.
SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Forest Tell, Four Powers, Harry Ford, George Newburn, Gladys Parkinson, Bioscope.
WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Romanoff, Bert Coote and Co., Wallace Lupino, Ernest Shand, Bioscope.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO.

BOLTON HIPPODROME. — Fred Le Cren's pantomime.
BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Daunton-Shaw Troupe, "A Careless Lassie," Herd and Gard, Gordon Bros., Two Vestas, Fred Milner, Kuming and Whidden, pictures.
BRADFORD ALHAMBRA. — Ritchie Four, "Submarine F. 7," Five Petleys, Dacre and Lynton, Raymond Amos Trio, Bessie Butt, Olga Tcharna, Austin Rudd, pictures.
BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Europe," Howard and Harris, Poluski Bros., Larola, Bella and Jules Terry, Dexter, O'Gust, pictures.
GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12). — Harry Lamore, Charlotte Parry, Grock and Partner, Capt. Kelly, Milly and Gordon Trio, Lorna and Toots Pounds, Elsie Stead, Lowenwirth and Cohen, pictures.
LEEDS HIPPODROME.—Dottridge and Longden's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."
LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME.—Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Cinderella."
MANCHESTER PALACE.—"The Whirl of the Town."
MARGATE HIPPODROME. — Chumley and Davis Co., "Our Boys."
NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME.—Harry Burns' pantomime, "Forty Thieves."
PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Hullo, Everybody!" Guest and Newlyn, James Garnett, Violet Essex.
SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Mind Your Own Business," Southgate and Sister, Four Sisters Ruby, T. B. Barr, Gus Harris, pictures.
SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—"I've Seen the 'Arem," Les Andree, Mignon Mise and Eddy Foy, Augustin and Hartley, Bryan O'Sullivan, J. P. Lang, pictures.
SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"A Lucky Miss," Sibon's Cats, Speedwell, Jenny Lynwood, Harvey Boys, Will Norrie, pictures, &c.
WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Romanos, Fyne and Hurley, Miriam Greenaway, Harry Dawn, Heeley and Meeley, Carlisle and Wellmon, Nellie Wallace, pictures.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

CHIPPENHAM PALACE.—Dorothy Lena.
EXMOUTH PUBLIC HALL THEATRE.—Company as booked.
FROME PALACE.—Ben Jackson, the Junes.
GUERNSEY THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Louie C. Finnis, and company as booked.
JERSEY ALHAMBRA.—Pictures.
JERSEY OPERA HOUSE.—Pictures.
PORTLAND EASTON PALACE.—Wragg and Wragg.
PORTLAND MASONIC HALL.—Wragg and Wragg.
RADSTOCK PALACE.—The Two Lombards.
SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—George Waters' company in: Jan. 4, 5, 6, "Mary Goes First," Jan. 7, 8, 9, "The Dust of Egypt."
SALISBURY PALACE.—George Ray's "Have a Dip" Revue, Fred Dome, Mabel Lenton and her Four London Belles, the Lenfords.
TREHARRIS PALACE.—Walter Lambert and Co., in "Lucky Nutty Jones," Bert Groves, Layton and Douglas.
TROWBRIDGE NEW PALACE. — The Four Stanlinis, Gladys Witton.
WARMINSTER PALACE.—Company as booked.
WEYMOUTH ARCADIA.—Roller Skating.
WEYMOUTH BELLE VUE PALACE.—Company as booked.
WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Eddie and Fay Black.
WEYMOUTH ROYAL JUBILEE HALL.—Company as booked.
YEOVIL PALACE.—Broom and James, Marcel De Vere, Shine and McVoy Trio.
Band rehearsals at each place at one o'clock, except Weymouth at twelve.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME.—J. W. Jackson's 16 English Dancers, White Brothers and Emilie, The Rangers, Shogan and Ryder, Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, Sisters Royce and Sid, Belman and Poluski, Jack Smiles, Hippodrome Pictorial Chronicle.
ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The Dancing Nixons, Phillis and Zena, Minnie and Leslie, Reg. Sackville West, Malvina Dunreath, Little Hatch, Phœbe Lyndhurst, S. H. Galligan, Lister Reekie, Rosie Everette, Minnie Evans, Will Surrie.
BATH PALACE.—Tom Collins and Co. in "Buying a Pub," Walter Saxby, Pony Sam, Fanny Shaylor, Joe Archer, Anne Hubert.
GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11; matinée, Thursday, 2.30).—Hayman and Franklin, Ted Waite, George Rae, Alf Leonard Trio, W. F. Frame, the Hesseys, Rizarelli-Recar Trio, Langford and Ella, Tozart.
GUILDFORD THEATRE ROYAL.—"A Pair of Silk Stockings."
HARROGATE EMPIRE THEATRE (rehearsal, 2).—Diana and Len Grey, Guy Rider, Flo Guest.
KINGSTON EMPIRE.—Mr. Joe Collins' pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."
LONDON EDMONTON EMPIRE.—"What Price London," Park's Eton Boys and Girls, and company as booked.
LONDON.—WALHAM GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Rob Gilmore, Daisy Griff, Hal Smithers, Ina Lorimer, The Nippers, Paul Mills' Courtiers, Harry Gribben and company, The Brennans, Ruby De Fountenoy, and pictures.
MANCHESTER TIVOLI (rehearsal, 12).—Lawrence Brough, Two Oxfords, Briff, Braff and Broff, Brothers St. John, Manchester Quintette, Dalston and Lane, Rees Trio.
NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Will H. Fox, Dancit, Marini, Sid Cotterell and company, Les Nossellas, Maurice, Scott Gibson, Romanesca Quartette.
OXFORD NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Bowyer and Westwood, Myrtle Grove, Clown Argo, Strength Bros., Days, Carlos Menard, Harold Baker, Claude Lester.
PALACE.—"The Passing Show," Albert Whelan, Samaroff and Sonia.
PLYMOUTH PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Tom Edwards, Jennie Johns, Three Orleans, Arthur Watson, and Flo Stanley and Co.
POPLAR QUEEN'S (rehearsal, 12).—Leonard Willoughby presents "The Lady Slavey," Bioscope, selection, Henry Ford, Kitty Ffoilott, Duncan Fask.
READING PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES (rehearsal, 1).—"The Admiral Speaks," Francisco, Dion Wade, Austyn Reid and Co., Burley and Burley, Will Bishop (jun.) and Co., Leeds and Le Mar, Tilbury and Vere.
SALFORD REGENT (rehearsal, 12; matinée, Tuesday, 2.30): Fred Karno's company in "Saturday to Monday," Harry Taft, Bollera, Abel and Welsh, Fred Hastings, Jaffa, Brothers Horne, and pictures.
SOUTHPORT PALLADIUM.—Eugene Stratton, Three Meers, Brightie and Carlyon, Rolf E. Slater and company, Grace Brothers, Zelinda Davis, "Wrestling Cheese."
TAUNTON NEW LYCEUM THEATRE.—Re Chocs. Concert Party.
TUNBRIDGE WELLS OPERA HOUSE.—Arthur Rigby's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."
VICTORIA PALACE.—De Biere, Jack and Evelyn, Morny Cash, Four Records, Eric Stone, Ivy Aberdare, Christie Duo, Bert Farrell.
YORK EMPIRE.—Harry Russell's pantomime, "Bo-Peep."

"VENUS, LTD."

On Monday evening, at the Liverpool Empire, a new revue, entitled "Venus, Ltd.," was presented before a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Ernest C. Rolls has already to his credit "Step This Way" and "Full Inside," and his latest work promises to prove as successful as the former ones. There is really no story attached to "Venus, Ltd.," but it serves to allow of several talented artistes showing their capabilities. The work is smart and bright, the costumes of the latest and exceedingly pretty, and the music, by Max Darewski, tuneful and catchy. Some of those who have enhanced their reputations in Mr. Rolls's other productions appear with much success, these including Miss Jennie Benson, who won rounds of applause for her songs, "The London girl," "A girl fra' Lancashire," and "The Territorial boys." Miss Benson also assists Mr. Harry Thurston in several very smart skits on plays and players, which aroused constant laughter. Together the couple named provide the greater part of the fun. Another much-appreciated artiste is Mr. Bardy Russell, who made a very diverting dude; while Mr. Eric Randolph, possessed of a rich tenor voice, pleased generally with his rendering of "O! Suzette" and "Where my caravan has rested." The Russian dancer, Siminoff, gives a display which is greeted with loud applause; and other principals are Gerald Osborne, Ella Kay (a dainty soubrette), and Miss Cornish Magnette (comedy artiste). There is a company of sixty, and the chorus is a large and capable one.

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"ALADDIN," AT THE PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.

Always recognised as a first-class pantomime house, the management of the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, have, under war conditions, adopted unconventional schemes this season. They have reduced the prices of admission to half, but they have, however, aimed at a strong, well-chosen, all-round company, and they are responsible for a bright and breezy performance from the rise to the fall of the curtain. The book is by George M. Slater, and, although there is no departure from the gist of the fairy tale, a great number of "gags" on the war and an abundance of songs on patriotic lines are introduced successfully. Mr. Robert Courtneidge has been responsible for the production, and he is to be complimented.

The opening scene, the Market Place, is very effective, and the colour scheme of the dresses well thought out. Here George Miller, as the Dame, and Mr. Clifford Morgan as Abanazar, are responsible for much good comedy work, followed by two splendid numbers by Winifred Ward (Aladdin), "Are we downhearted?" and the Princess (Miss Hope Charteris), "The sunshine of your smile." Another feature of this scene is the dramatic exit of Abanazar with Aladdin. In the Bath Room, Wishee Washee (W. H. Kirby) is very prominent, and he is well supported by the Chinese Policemen (Bert Maddison and Dan Leno), who sing a duet, "Who squashed Bill Kaiser?" The Dame again comes into prominence with the highly amusing song, "I'm very fond of music," and the versatile Abanazar, with his powerful and effective voice, scores in the duet, "My beautiful baby doll," in which he is accompanied by the Princess.

In the Cave Scene, Miss Winifred Ward, always bright and vivacious, and even cheeky, assumes a contrasting rôle when she finds herself imprisoned in the cave, her dramatic gestures being very smart. Before the ensemble of the second half Miss Ivy Shilling, who also fills the rôle of Pekoe, contributes an artistic toe dance, for which she earned deserved applause. In the opening of the second half Miss Shilling, whose performance is really one of the striking features of the production, takes part in a "Ju-jitsu dance—Ju-No Kata," with Mr. Fred Leslie, and one will never tire of seeing this novel and admirable exhibition. This is followed by a diverting tea-party scene, in which Widow Twankey, Aladdin, and the Princess appear. Wishee is also again to the fore in the comedy line. Aladdin assumes the rôle of immaculate male impersonator, and scores with her song, "Archibald," and the vein of pathos is struck immediately afterwards by Abanazar in the patriotic song, "Somebody's son." Fred Leslie, who is responsible for a clean, clever, and versatile performance, renders "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," after which he is warmly applauded for his eccentric dancing. Miss Doris Cooke has a small part as second girl, but her rendering of "Japanese Butterfly Land" marks her for distinction. Again, to appeal on sentimental lines the Princess sweetly renders the ever popular "Come back to Erin," and after some good wholesome comedy in the station scene, in which Bert Maddison (one of the Chinese Policemen) gives a good comedy soldier burlesque, Abanazar again scores with his beautiful rendering of "Irish eyes." Two of the scenes in the second half are beautifully depicted, particularly the final, the Willow Pattern Palace, which is a brilliant, glittering spectacle, the scenery and dresses demanding warm plaudits.

Mr. Knight Pearce and Mr. Howard Carr are responsible for the music, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Carr. Mr. E. R. Beaumont is acting as stage manager, and the business management of the theatre is under the control of capable Mr. W. J. Andrews.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Encore" Christmas number. Price 1d. Published by The Encore, Ltd.

"Royal Guide to the London Charities." Edited by John Lane. Price 1s. 6d. Published by Chatto and Windus.

"Doris and Her Friends." A play for children (with dances), by Maude Roberts. Price 1s. Published by "The Dancing Times."

"Imagination Land." A play for children (with dances), by Maude Roberts. Price 1s. Published by "The Dancing Times."

"Whitaker's Almanack" for 1915. Price 2s. 6d.

On Tuesday at Bow-street Mr. Hopkins upheld the decision of the London County Council in its refusal to grant H. M. Marinelli, Ltd., a licence to carry on a music hall artistes' employment agency. The magistrate granted the Council 20 guineas costs.

On Christmas Eve the members of Mr. Sinclair Neill's company presented him with a handsome silver cigarette case. Madame Beresford, in making the presentation, said it was "a trifling mark of esteem from the little crowd.

Speaking of the work of Gordon Craig, her son, who in Florence is carrying out his development of a new stage technique based on form and colour of simple type, Miss Terry expressed the belief that the influence of this freer movement cannot but be of incalculable benefit to the stage. "The infinite detail requires little from the imagination," she observed. "Surely we are to be allowed to form our own concepts, and need not be forever hampered by the arbitrary rule and the unyielding line. Art is never expressive when fettered, and the men now at work will eventually free it if they are supported."

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PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

FRED KITCHEN
Peter—the Page, "Cinderella,"
Theatre Royal, Leeds.

BOBBY DILLON,
Randolph the Reckless,
Nottingham Pantomime, "Boy Blue."

MISS OUIDA MACDERMOTT.
Principal Boy.

MISS IRENE DILLON,
Principal Girl, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MISS KATIE KAY.

MISS MABEL MEDROW.
Principal Boy, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

TOM FOY and His Donkey at Belfast.

MISS IVY SAWYER.
Alice in "Alice in Wonderland,"
Savoy Theatre.

MISS AIMEE STEWART
as Princess So-Shi, "Aladdin,"
Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

MISS EDNA MORGAN.
Principal Boy, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

FRANKLYN VERNON,
Mad Hatter, Savoy Theatre.

MISS MAY TOMLINSON.
Principal Girl, "Old King Cole,"
Court, Liverpool.

PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

MISS MARIE BLANCHE,
Principal Boy, Grand, Leeds.

MISS MONA VIVIAN
as Aladdin, Princess's, Bradford.

MISS DAISY BRAY.
Principal Girl, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MISS CLAIRE ROMAINE
as Aladdin The National Theatre, Kingsway.

MISS WINNIE COLLINS.
Princess Edwidge, King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

MISS CORA GOFFIN.
The Playhouse.

MISS CLARA BECK.
Principal Boy, Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS JANE AYR.
Red Riding Hood, Shakespeare, Liverpool.

MISS LILY IRIS
The Prince in "Cinderella,"
Aldwych Theatre.

MISS ELISE MALPASS.
Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS.

"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY BEAUTIFIED" AT DRURY LANE.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Duke of Monte Blanco .. Mr. George Graves
Pompos ..... Mr. Will Evans
Auriol ..... Mr. Bertram Wallis
Duke Nemo ..... Mr. Forrester Harvey
Finnykin ..... Mr. Stanley Lupino
Big Head ..... Mr. Arthur Conquest
Jacques ..... Mr. Arthur Poole
Princess Marcella ..... Miss Ferne Rogers
Puck ..... Miss Renée Mayer
Zizi ..... Miss Nancy Buckland
Spyreena ..... Miss Kate Holbrook
Jeanne ..... Miss Rita Carr
Première Danseuse ..... Miss Dorothy Moody
A Fairy ..... Miss Stella Ulmar

Never, we think, during the whole three hundred and sixty-five days of the year, is there an occasion when there is so much excitement and fun and anticipation and good wishes all gathered together as in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, before the rise of the curtain on Boxing Night. The great house chatters and rustles and whispers from pit to gallery. In the boxes the mammas and papas (many of them in khaki this year) sit with smiling faces behind a row of vociferous bright-eyed offspring. In the stalls little girls in dainty frocks and little boys with very white collars and very smooth hair sit between proud parents, who try hard not to be quite as young as their children. The patient puttites and the indomitable galleryites would have waited three times as long in the long, chilly queue outside just to be able to breathe in the delicious atmosphere of high expectancy and to subside into the long quivering hush that fell over the house as through the tableau curtains on Boxing Night slipped the dear little figure and the angelic little face of Miss Renée Mayer in her red Puck dress and in her sweet clear voice introduced the pantomime "The Sleeping Beauty Beautified."

"Mid clash of arms and mingled hopes and fears
We still would seek to charm your eyes and ears.
To tell again beneath the limelight's rays
A dear old tale of childhood's happy days."

For the third year in succession, an event hitherto unparalleled, the beautiful fairy tale, "The Sleeping Beauty," told by Mr. George R. Sims and Mr. Arthur Collins, is given at Drury Lane, and in this, the third year of her reign, she is more beautiful, jollier, more "fetching" than ever. She has retained all the charms of her original production, and has added a thousand new ones, so that we have the joy of renewing old friendships and the pleasure of making new acquaintances. Instead of Mr. George Graves as a scarecrow (and what a heavenly scarecrow he was!), we have Mr. George Graves as an equestrian statue, he and his horse green with the mould of eighteen years, creaking and ripping as he slowly dismounts. Mr. Graves and Mr. Will Evans, still as joyous a Pompos as ever, continue to tell "Happy Days" stories, and, in addition, they have a screamingly funny duet, "I have a secret to tell you," in which every wild rumour that has been floated since the beginning of last August is told by one to the other, from the "seventy thousand Russians on the Underground" to the imprisonment of the Crown Prince in the Zoo. There is a delicious skit between these two great comedians on "Developing a photograph," for which process Mr. Will Evans tells Mr. Graves with great solemnity that he "must have a bath," and the instructions are taken literally and exceedingly irascibly by Mr. Graves. The famous "whitewashing scene" has been omitted, but in its place we have an equally funny "Missing scene" episode. Sweet little Renée Mayer is the darlingest Puck, not quite as little but just as much of a darling as ever. Clothed in fairy khaki she sings a recruiting song that is one of the hits of the year, "Won't you join the Army?" by Mr. J. M. Glover, with a ripping chorus:—

"Won't you join the Army? Won't you come with me?
Won't you come with us, boys, to Berlin on the Spree?
Say goodbye to Kate or Nan,
She'll be proud that you're a man.
Won't you, won't you, won't you, won't you come and join with me?"

There is a new Princess Beauty this year, Miss Ferne Rogers, very dainty and sweet, with sparkling eyes and a voice of singular purity, heard to great advantage in a very tuneful solo, "The isle of love," sung in the beautiful Blue Lagoon scene. The success of Mr. Bertram Wallis as the Prince was assured as soon as it was known that he was to play the part. Surely never in the annals of pantomime has so handsome, gallant, and golden-voiced a prince wooed a fair princess. Their duet, "The garden of roses," was encored again and again. Mr. Stanley Lupino is funnier than ever as Finnykin. There is an exquisitely comic eccentric dance for him and Mr. Will Evans, and later on he has another delightfully funny dance with Zizi at the conclusion of their duet, "A lesson in flirting." Miss Nancy Buckland is a delicious Zizi, pretty and vivacious, and Miss Kate Holbrook is very majestic and scornful as Spyreena, the bad fairy, or, as she is called this year, the "alien enemy." There is a new première danseuse for the flower ballet, Miss Dorothy Moody, a lovely girl and a beautiful dancer. We must not forget to mention Mr. George Graves' new "tongue-twister," "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," in which he obliges the audience to join, to his own and their delight.

The scene of "Beauty's Awakening," a poem of springtime, was rapturously applauded, and will not easily be surpassed, while Mr. J. M. Glover's graceful, fairy-like music is just the sort to sing and hum tantalisingly in the memory until a succession of visits fixes it more securely. It is indeed a "great" pantomime, and with its mirth and beauty and splendour it is the very thing "to soothe awhile the hurts of daily care."

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," AT THE LYCEUM.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Simple Simon ..... Mr. Victor Kelly
King Rulem ..... Mr. Harry Brayne
Buggins and Juggins....Jackie and Le Sine
Fairy Starlight ..... Miss Cissie Vaughan
Demon Mischief ..... Mr. Harold Browne
Daisy ..... Messrs. Macdonald and Arthur
Mr. Hops ..... Mr. Harry Gardner
Flossie ..... Miss Winifred Yorke
Trotter ..... Mr. F. Sayers
Princess Rosamund ..... Miss Doris Dean
Dolly Dimple ..... Mr. Harry Conlin
Colin ..... Miss Iris Banfield
Margery Daw ..... Miss Elsie Piddock
Tom and Alice ..... The Two Cures
Mister Gobblywobbly..Mr. Richard F. Symons
Gobblywobbly's Cooks ..The Boganny Troupe
Jack ..... Miss Louie Beckman

A long life and a merry one may be predicted for "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the Lyceum. Wonderful scenery, captivating melody, and fun of an uproarious character are contained in the production, the book of which is by Mr. Newman Maurice, while the music, quite of an operatic character, is again composed and arranged by Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke. Among a series of gorgeous scenes that stand out prominently is the tableau "Sunrise" which ends the first part. All the resources of the vast stage are utilised for the scene, in which knights in silver mail, contrasting brilliantly with the reds, greens, and yellows of the denizens of Fairyland, move about beneath the rays of a gigantic sun before the hero's enraptured gaze, just as he embarks upon his adventurous journey to Cloudland. Pretty pictures are also made in the first part by the Magic Glen and the Enchanted Glade. In the second part the chief scenes are the Growth of the Beanstalk, Among the Beans, and the King's Palace, wherein opportunity is taken to introduce representatives in national dress of all the Allies, from Servia to Japan.

The remainder of the scenes are more or less adapted to the purposes of merriment, which becomes most assertive in the Giant's Castle, wherein the Boganny Troupe go through their acrobatic antics to an accompaniment of peals of laughter. A prime mover in the mirth-making is Mr. Victor Kelly, a comedian with a distinct style of his own, who, as Simple Simon, undertakes various duties, from village postman to railway porter. In all he is ludicrously funny, particularly in his song, "One, two, buckle my shoe," which is supplemented by an acrobatic dance of much eccentricity. A substantial share in the fun is also taken by Messrs. Jackley and Le Sine, who, as a couple of bailiffs, are continuously on the scene. The former comedian rejoices in a tall figure, a cadaverous face, and a roaring voice, and of all three he makes effective use, while his comic whistling is also a source of merriment. Mr. Harry Conlin is a droll Dolly Dimple, a lady of uncertain age, whose career is attended by many misadventures, all of which make for mirth. His song of "Ragtime mad" adds to the hilarity. Mr. Harry Brayne makes King Rulem just what he is described—a "dry old stick."

So doughty a hero as Jack should have a stalwart representative, and in every way suitable is Miss Louie Beckman, handsome, dashing, buoyant, and tuneful. She carries herself gallantly throughout, and looks extremely well in several striking costumes. To her songs, "Are we all here?" and "The sunshine of your smile," she does complete justice. Miss Doris Dean, already a favourite with Lyceum audiences, is a fascinating Princess. She dances airily and gracefully, as becomes her rank, and her singing of "Wonderful girl" is delightful, and the duet, "You're here, I'm here," sung with Miss Beckman, is greatly admired. Fairy Starlight has a comely exponent in Miss Cissie Vaughan, who sings artistically of "What grandmama said." No less effective is the Demon Mischief of Mr. Harold Browne, who possesses a powerful voice, which is heard to particular advantage in "The King of the Elves." Mr. Richard F. Symons makes a formidable giant with a sonorous voice, suited to the occasion. As Colin and Margery Daw Miss Iris Banfield and Miss Elsie Piddock are happily paired, and lend valuable aid to the various scenes.

The pantomime derives added attractiveness from the speciality dances of Miss Ninette De Valois and Little Edna Maude, both of the Lila Field company—a fact that guarantees perfection. Miss De Valois dances with remarkable skill, pirouetting and posing without effort, and executing many varied forms of terpsichorean art with equal facility. Mr. Robert Roberty, who does some marvellous revolving dances, takes part in the scena, which makes one of the hits of the production. A tribute should also be paid to Miss Lila Field's skill in arranging the miniature ballet and the Fairyland ballet, which won well-deserved admiration. A prominent part is taken in the spectacle by the Lottie Stone Troupe, and the Two Cures, an accomplished pair of juveniles, give a most amusing coster interlude. A harlequinade, with Mr. Harry Gardner as Clown, and Mr. Percy Baverstock as Pantaloon, concludes the pantomime, which Mr. S. Major Jones stage manages with the hand of an expert.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE ALDWYCH.

Produced on Christmas Eve.

The Baron Mugwump .....Mr. Scott Russell
Myrtle .....Mr. Harold Montague
Popsy .....Mr. Harvey White
Cinderella .....Miss Julia James
Pimple .....Mr. Johnny Schofield, jun.
Nick Winter .....Mr. Denis Lyndon
Sexton Blake .....Mr. Harry Benet
Prince Charming .....Miss Lily Iris
Dandini .....Miss Daisy Bartholomew
Fairy Godmother .....Miss Evelyn Hope
Fuzzy.....Miss Pauline Prim
Fairy Queen .....Miss Lennie Deane
Demon .....Mr. Walter Brodie
The Hare .....Mr. Harold Barrett

There was no counterfeited glee about the laughter of the kiddies seated in the Aldwych Theatre on Monday afternoon when we had a look at "Cinderella," the pantomime presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, who has this year transferred his managerial activities from the Crystal Palace to the West End. Mr. Fred Bowyer, who has written the book, has told the tale in simple fashion. The romance of the meteoric career of the immortal heroine is not overladen with tedious business, comic gags, or topical hits, and yet there is no lack of fun. The maid of the hearth is wooed in an upland glade. Deer steal forth among the branches grey, and a prettier trysting place for lovers could not be imagined. From the wood the story proceeds in natural sequence to the kitchen, the scene of the customary visit of the Fairy Godmother. Here an electrically lighted coach, drawn by white ponies, happily realises the change in Cinderella's fortunes, which reach a greater altitude of splendour in the ballroom (Scene VII.), a beautiful apartment, to be shortly afterwards eclipsed in gorgeousness by the palatial interior of the Prince's abode, where the owner of the glass slipper wins her final triumph.

Miss Julia James, the Cinderella, makes a dainty picture in her humble dress of brown. The devotion of the Page touches her, and the scene between the two, with a concluding duet and dance, is one of the most charming in the pantomime. The perfect naturalness of her acting is very refreshing. Miss Lily Iris, a courtly gallant indeed, makes love with the grace of an eighteenth-century nobleman. Her chief song, "Sister Susie's sewing shirts," is encored again and again, the tongue-twisting chorus providing a much appreciated vocal exercise for the audience. Miss Daisy Bartholomew as Dandini is an excellent actress, and her polished style and sense of character are invaluable in the part. Mr. Scott Russell as the Baron Mugwump has considerable vocal abilities, and will doubtless increase the fun of the part in a few days. Mr. Harold Montague plays Myrtle, one of the ugly sisters, on unexaggerated lines, and his songs at the piano are particularly welcome. Mr. Harvey White as Popsy, the other ill-favoured spinster, burlesques the novelette in amusing fashion, and both actors avoid the vulgarities that sometimes disfigure the business of men in petticoats. Mr. Johnny Schofield, jun., has plenty of the family ability, and never spares himself in song or dance. In a special dolly and golliwog dance his success is shared by Miss Florence Hersee. Mr. Denis Lyndon and Harry Benet as Nick Winter and Sexton Blake give comic emphasis to that droll number, "I do like a s'nice s'mince s'pie." Miss Pauline Prim as the cat has already become exceedingly popular with the little ones. The feline antics and business have been well studied, and the rare success of a lady animal impersonator is to be recorded. Miss Evelyn Hope's duties as the Fairy Godmother are well carried out. Harold Barrett as the Hare has decided ability; and Mr. Walter Brodie realises the truculence of the Demon. Some well-trained children dance quite prettily a divertissement arranged by Miss Euphan Maclaren. Miss Helen May dances a pas seul with much daintiness and charm, the music from Bizet's "Coppelia" being very appropriately used. The music generally has been selected, composed, and orchestrated by Mr. B. J. Paterson, the musical director, and the performance goes very smoothly under the stage direction of Mr. Walter B. Harcourt. To the scenery we have already referred. It is from Mr. Howard's Crystal Palace Studio, and is painted by Messrs. England and Wallace. Willy Clarkson has supplied the wigs, which add so much to the courtly aspect of the ball-room scene; and the wonderful cat's dress has been manufactured by Messrs. H. and M. Rayne. The harlequinade (at matinées only) is headed by Mr. Walter Manfree, whose droll filchings are much enjoyed.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT THE PALLADIUM.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Dick Whittington .....Miss Clarice Mayne
Togo .....Mr. Fred Whittaker
Alice Fitzwarren .....Miss May Gibson
Princess Mameena .....Miss Molly Drew
Idle Jack .....Mr. Harry Weldon
Alderman Fitzwarren .....Mr. Harry Ray
Martha .....Mr. Deane Tribune
Cap'n and Mate .....Messrs. Hall and Earle
The Emperor .....Mr. Herbert Franklin
The Vizier .....Mr. Hamilton Ryan
King Rat .....Mr. John Harcourt
Fairy Sunbeam .....Miss Thora Darsie
Demon Rats .....The Reed Troupe
Clown .....Mr. Bob Reed
Pantaloon .....Mr. F. Reed
Harlequin .....Mr. J. Reed
Columbine .....Miss Joan Webbe

Although Messrs. Wylie and Tate's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," is calculated to particularly please the youngsters, there is plenty in it to entertain the grown-ups who are privileged to take them. The children will be especially delighted with the antics of Togo, one of the most knowing and diverting of cats, cleverly played by Mr. Fred Whittaker; and all will share in admiration of the accomplished work of a crowd of well-trained little girls, who make their first appearance as diminutive sweeps and "slaveys," and give a very amusing song and dance. These youngsters are also very successful in a sailor song and hornpipe, and in the cat circus number, and altogether made one of the decided "hits" of the performance.

The book of "Dick Whittington," which is by Lauri Wylie and Alfred Parker, with lyrics by Clifford Harris, follows the well-known story pretty closely; and James W. Tate ("That"), who conducts, has selected, arranged, and composed the music.

The excellent company is headed by Miss Clarice Mayne, a dainty and refined representative of the hero. Wearing a succession of most becoming and handsome principal boy costumes, Miss Mayne plays throughout with a quiet jollity and point that are much to be commended, and sings several attractive songs. These include "Beautiful baby doll," "I love the ladies" (to the success of which "That," who conducts, the members of the orchestra and the chorus, all contribute), and "The water lily." An engaging and sweet-voiced heroine is Miss May Gibson, who did every justice to the vocal numbers allotted her, and acted exceedingly well in her scenes with Idle Jack, a part very drolly played by Mr. Harry Weldon. Idle as Jack may be in the interests of his master, he certainly has few spare minutes while on the stage, and these he occupies in knitting socks for soldiers. Very funny, indeed, is Mr. Weldon, and the numerous comic interludes and bits of business he introduces make for hearty laughter every time. Mr. Harry Ray and Mr. Deane Tribune as Alderman Fitzwarren and Martha, the cook, also contributed materially to the hilarity of the pantomime, but the first-named artiste might be given more opportunities for the display of his talent as a dancer. Hall and Earle, the Captain and the Mate, give a clever acrobatic act in the ship scene, and the trapwork and merry harlequinade of the Bob Reed Troupe is much enjoyed. Mr. John Harcourt is properly melodramatic as King Rat, and shares in the success of a very humorous song with all the comedians in the Barnet Fair scene, and there are others—all excellent in their respective parts. Much praise must be accorded Mr. Gus Sohlke, the producer, the Emperor's Palace and Lord Mayor's Day being lavishly staged and finely arranged scenes. Mr. John Bull is responsible for the scenery; and the wigs, costumes, &c., are supplied by Clarkson, the genial wizard of the Wardour-street wiggeries being an interested spectator at the first representation. Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart is the general stage-manager; and Mr. Joseph Wilson, long the popular manager of the Tivoli, is the general manager.

"Dick Whittington," it should be stated, will be played at matinées only; and such a merry and bright annual should fill the Palladium for many afternoons to come. There was hearty applause throughout, and at the conclusion of the first part many handsome floral tributes and baskets of fruit were handed across the footlights to Miss Mayne. Messrs. Wylie and Tate, and all associated with them, are to be congratulated.

"HUMPTY DUMPTY" AT THE MARLBOROUGH.

Produced on Boxing Day.

King Solumm .....Mr. George Barrett
Soara .....Mr. Murray Ashford
Rudolph .....Miss Ruby Roya
Humpty Dumpty .....Mr. Charles Goff
Prince Sprightly .....Miss Marie Stella
Princess Aurora .....Miss Ruby Louis
Bison Bob .....Carlton
Jollicus .....Mr. Harry Saget
Sillicus .....Mr. Harry Reynolds
Merricus .....Mr. A. Newell
Funnicus .....Mr. Chas. Apsey
Claribel .....Miss Marjorie Villis
Brick and Brack .....Messrs. Ure and Hyam
Cherry .....Miss Yvonne Mehro
Martha .....Mr. Stratton Mills

The production of the annual Christmas piece at the Marlborough Theatre is an event of some importance in North London, more particularly to the young people whose visit to the pantomime is one of the chief delights of the Yuletide holidays. This year the directors of the Holloway house have not only maintained an acknowledged reputation for an admirable pantomime as regards the cast of characters and spectacular effects, but they have also paid special attention to the requirements of the juvenile portion of successive audiences. There is abundance of good, honest fun of the kind that causes the theatre to ring with the merry laughter of the children, and what evidence of youthful enjoyment is more welcome than that?

The story of Humpty Dumpty "who sat on a wall" is not so hackneyed as some of the nursery tales, and, moreover, it was deftly treated by the late Mr. Hickory Wood, whose book has been carefully revised and added to. There is humour in the idea of the monarch who never laughs—that is to say, hardly ever. He has, however, a handsome son, Sprightly by name as well as by nature, and an exceedingly charming daughter, the Princess Aurora, whose young man is known as Rudolph, but is really Lord Hubert Gay. He chooses to disguise himself as a harlequin, and sets out in quest of the magic ring, the finder of which is in the enviable position of claiming the hand in marriage of the sweet Princess. As the ring has been dropped in the sea, the task is no easy one. As for Humpty Dumpty himself, he is a mysterious personage, who, liberated by the breakage of an egg-shell, has only to express a wish, good or bad, and it is instantly fulfilled. He is intimately associated with Soara, the Spirit of Ambition, whose wicked plans are, of course, Solumm works a rich vein of humour that is never exhausted, and when the jokes of his professional jesters cause him to weep copiously instead of laugh, the house roars. Mr. Barrett's King Solumm is indeed an exceedingly funny creation; and he has an excellent partner in Mr. Stratton Mills, whose Martha is a most amusing personage. Martha succeeds in her matrimonial intentions as regards the king, and the domestic differences which are continually arising between the monarch and his spouse are among the most amusing passages in the pantomime. Mr. Mills also makes a vocal hit with a ditty about our "Happy little home" and "Tralala." As Bison Bob, a circus proprietor, the clever conjurer and humorist known as "Carlton" cuts a truly comical figure, and with the aid of an assistant introduces a very laughable burlesque of the performance of a professor of the mesmeric and healing art. Mr. Murray Ashford is quite dramatic and impressive as Soara, the Spirit of Ambition, and his fine baritone voice is heard to advantage in the patriotic song, "Every man is going to be a soldier." Mr. Charles Goff is a capital representative of Humpty Dumpty, and Miss Marjorie Villis as the wonder-working Fairy gives an artistic rendering of some popular ballads. Mention should also be made of Messrs. Ure and Hyam as Brick and Brack, and of Messrs. Harry Saget, Harry Reynolds, A. Newell, and Chas. Apsey, the King's Jesters.

Every credit is due to Mr. Guyton Heath, the producer of the pantomime, and the full orchestra and well-trained chorus are under the bâton of Mr. Fred Allwood. Speciality dances by the Six Martells are attractive contributions; and the ballets and processions are delightful. The pantomime lacks nothing in the way of elaborate and tasteful scenic illustration, specially worthy of note being the scenes under the sea and the land of heartsease.

"ALADDIN" AT THE LONDON OPERA HOUSE.

Produced on Christmas Eve.

Aladdin ..... Miss Claire Romaine
Pekoe ..... Miss Billie Barlow
Won Twon ..... Miss Connie Leon
Princess Badroulbadour ....Miss Bessie Burke
Widow Twankey ..... Mr. Geo. Rapley
Abanazar ..... Mysterious Mysticus
Emperor ..... Mr. John Macauley
Empress ..... Mr. Burr Lynn
Grand Vizier ..... Mr. Charles Fisher
Wishee Washee ..... Mr. Teddy Miles
Billikins ..... Mr. Alec Fraser
Geni of the Ring ..... Miss Lillie Ansell
Spirit of Pantomime
Miss Marjorie Evelyn Mercer
Sail-one-Day ..... Miss Nan C. Hearne
Spottem ..... Miss Elsa Joel
Won Too ..... Miss Grace Arundale
Catch-em and Miss-em .... Denby and Dent
Slave of the Lamp ..... Mr. J. M. Jones
Zarban ..... Mr. G. B. Sinclair
Hold-up ..... Mr. T. W. Trevor
Lord Chamberlain ..... Mr. H. Waldron
Man in Possession ..... Mr. T. Dunde
Continental Dancers ..... Sisters Sylvester

"Aladdin," at the handsome and commodious theatre in the Kingsway, which is better known by its old title than by its new one, the National Theatre, enjoys the distinction of being the first pantomime produced in London this season, as the amusing burlesque of "Robinson Crusoe," at the Alhambra, cannot be regarded as pantomime proper. Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall and those associated with him may be congratulated on the production of a charming Christmas piece which will be certain to meet all the requirements of holiday makers, young and old.

Among the many stories of "The Arabian Nights" "Aladdin" is probably the most popular, and his wondrous adventures in connection with the magic lamp have been a source of inspiration to the pantomime writer since the days when this particular type of play was first introduced. Mr. E. C. Matthews' neatly written version of the old story is illustrated by a series of admirable scenes, including the Port of Pekin, Inside the Cave and the Mountains of the Magic Lamp, the Palace Gardens, Pekin en Fête, and the Interior of the Palace. All these scenes appeal to the eye with the most pleasing effect, and with the animation and life imparted by the presence of crowds in gay costumes nothing is lacking in the completeness of the stage pictures presented.

Miss Claire Romaine plays Aladdin with much spirit, and wins the favourable verdict of the audience both as actress and vocalist. In solos and in a duet with the Princess, "I was a good little girl," she sings in admirable style. Miss Billie Barlow's Pekoe is also a most successful portrayal, and she speedily becomes a popular personage with those in front. Her rendering of songs, particularly of "Where are the lads of the village to-night?" is highly appreciated. Deserving of warm praise also are the Won Twon of Miss Connie Leon and Won Too of Miss Grace Arundale, both of these ladies winning abundance of applause. A fascinating Princess Badroulbadour is seen in Miss Bessie Burke. Mr. George Rapley puts plenty of humour and spirit into his capital embodiment of the Widow Twankey, the hero's mother, and his "I do like a s'nice s'mince s'pie" is one of the vocal hits of the pantomime. The wicked uncle, Abanazar, is represented by the comedian who calls himself the Mysterious Mysticus, and that he makes excellent use of his opportunities is beyond question. The Emperor and Empress have good exponents in Mr. John Macauley and Mr. Burr Lynn. Mr. Charles Fisher scores as the Grand Vizier, while Wishee Washee and Billikins are represented in quite the right pantomime vein by Mr. Teddy Miles and Mr. Alec Fraser respectively. Mr. J. M. Jones, the experienced producer of the pantomime, plays the rôle of the Slave of the Lamp in a dramatic style that is quite appropriate to the character. As Catch-em and Miss-em, Denby and Dent contribute to the fun, and mention should also be made of Mr. G. B. Sinclair as Zarban, Mr. T. W. Trevor as Hold-up, Mr. H. Waldron as Lord Chamberlain, and Mr. T. Dunde as the Man in Possession. Miss Lillie Ansell as Geni of the Ring sings with charming expression, and Miss Marjorie Mercer as the Spirit of Pantomime and chief dancer is all that could be desired. There are still to be mentioned Miss Nan C. Hearne as Sail-one-Day, and Miss Elsa Joel as Spottem.

A notable feature of the pantomime is a ballet of one hundred specially selected and trained children, led by Miss Marjorie Mercer, whose dances, arranged by Mr. J. M. Jones, are greatly appreciated. There are in addition the Imperial Russian Troupe of whirlwind dancers, Beatie Harold's Eight Brilliants, and little Sylvia Acham, the wonderful juvenile Indian dancer. Other specialities include Jack, Sam, and Pete, and a tenor; Mozetto and Page; Fisher and Sinclair, tenor and baritone, in a vocal comedy mélange; the Volte Gerard Fairy Fountains; and, lastly, a novel harlequinade, with Mr. Arthur Bretton as Clown. Acknowledgment should also be made of the artistic work of the scene painters.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT HAMMERSMITH.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Dick Whittington ..... Miss Maisie Jerrard
Alice ..... Miss Maudie Olmar
Alderman Fitzwarren ..Mr. George Richarde
Sarah ..... Mr. Jack Lennol
Jack ..... Mr. Olly Kidd
Captain ..... Miss Bessie Van Gene
Mate ..... Mr. Kimberley
Bo'sun ..... Mr. Melbourne
Mary Doolittle ..... Miss Alma Lorene
Lord Bobbie ..... Mr. Rene Glynne
Marjorie Plantagenet ..Miss Barbara Williams
The Emperor of Morocco ..Mr. Leslie Barrie
The Princess ..... Miss Hilda Moss
Fairy Queen ..... Miss Dolfey G. Cariello
King Rat ..... Mr. John Duncan
Demon ..... Mr. Dick McKay
Tommy ..... Mr. Bert McNulty

A decided hit has been made by the new management, Messrs. Southwood and Crump, in their first pantomime production at the Lyric, Hammersmith, and they may be well pleased at the success they attained at the opening performance on Boxing Day. Throughout the entire performance there was not a dull moment; everything went in a sparkling manner. Plenty of fun, bright and merry, the pantomime went with a swing from the commencement till the fall of the curtain.

The story of Whittington is well told, and the plot is fully described in two parts, with eleven pretty and picturesque scenes. Mr. Herbert Lloyd is responsible for the book and lyrics, and he has carefully avoided political and war topics. Mr. Louis la Rondelle, the popular conductor, arranged and composed the music for the whole production, which is bright and cheerful. The company is strong in talent. Miss Maudie Olmar, a pretty and prepossessing artiste, proved herself a most accomplished and winsome Alice, and won all hearts for her excellent vocalism, her numbers being "Sunshine of your smile," "Sammy, come over here," and "Poppy," which were admirably sung. Miss Maisie Jerrard made a very dashing and charming Dick Whittington, and played the part to perfection. This lady has a beautiful voice, and she rendered some excellent numbers exquisitely, including, "True to your sweetheart," "Who's the girl you're going to meet to-night?" "Sure we're Irish," which were warmly applauded. Mr. George Richarde caused plenty of fun as Alderman Fitzwarren. Sarah the Cook, played by Mr. Jack Lennol, kept the audience highly diverted. Mr. Lennol had some capital songs, especially "Touch wood," which brought down the house; his singing of "Stewed prunes and prisms" also caught on. Mr. Olly Kidd also had plenty of opportunities to display his talents in the character of Idle Jack, his song "Are we all here?" going splendidly. Miss Bessie Van Gene both looked and played the part of Captain of the good ship Saucy Sally very well.

As the Mate and Bo'sun, we have two really good eccentric comedians in Messrs. Kimberley and Melbourne. Both worked exceptionally hard, and they were exceedingly funny in loading the ship scene. Their songs, "Smittering Mock," laughing song, "Are we downhearted?" being loudly applauded. Mr. Leslie Barrie fulfilled the rôle of the Emperor of Morocco in a dignified manner, and Miss Hilda Moss makes a sweet Princess, acting with grace, and her excellent voice was heard to advantage in "I love you so, why don't you love me?" As the Fairy Queen, Miss Dolfey G. Cariello was most pleasing, and sang in a charming manner, "Bright stars are gleaming." Mr. John Duncan played the part of the King Rat effectively, and sang his song of "Revenge" well. Mr. Bert McNulty proved himself a most capable Cat, and his clever antics and eccentricities were greatly enjoyed. Miss Alma Lorene made a pretty Mary Doolittle. Lord Bobbie was cleverly presented by Mr. Rene Glynne, and Miss Barbara Williams was pleasing and effective as Marjorie Plantagenet.

The specialties consisted of Madame Victor's Troupe of Juveniles, in dancing and singing, which was exceptionally good, and their imitations of well-known artistes were deservingly encored. Lorene and Kidd did some excellent work, and the speciality dances by Misses Helenor Bevan, Mavis Claire and Madge Pryce, Sylvia Rose and Miss Vi Thomas's "Four Imps" quartette of dancers, were all gracefully executed. The harlequinade was revived, and much enjoyed. The pantomime was produced by Mr. Herbert Lloyd, with Mr. Stanley Field, assistant stage manager.

"ALADDIN" AT THE HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Produced on Boxing Day

A decided success has been achieved by Mr. Carlton Wallace, who put before his patrons on Saturday last a sparkling entertainment without a dull moment. The pantomime, which is in two parts, contains twelve scenes, and the various stage pictures, from the opening Market-place scene, to the concluding garden party, are excellent examples of the scenic artist's art.

A more charming exponent of the title-rôle than Miss Marie Earle could scarcely have been found. Her renderings of "When Irish eyes are

smiling," "Sister Susie sewing shirts for soldiers," "Boys in khaki, boys in blue," and "Tipperary," were delightful. Miss Marion Edwardes as Princess Badroulbadour was charming, her interpretation of popular successes being very effective. A funnier performance than the Grand Vizier of Mr. Gus Ern, a mirth-provoking comedian, we have not seen for a long time. Mr. Parky Knight as Abanazar shares largely in the comic element, and the audience vastly enjoyed his humour. Messrs. Billy Walton and Harry Montague, as Policemen, also add to the fun. Miss Daisy Gardner as Catchee, and Miss Lilian Gardner as Pekoe, are attractive, and their duets are tastefully sung. Mr. Sydney Courtney (who is also responsible for the stage-management) is admirable as the Emperor; and Mr. Chas. Edwards gives an effective performance as the Slave of the Lamp. Miss Judith Espinosa and her Eight Chrysanthemums furnish a clever exhibition of the terpsichorean art, and deserved the hearty reception accorded them. Miss Louie Tinsley as Widow Twankey causes great amusement, her washing song being exceptionally funny. The remaining characters are in the capable hands of the Misses Petite Albert, Doris Lilian, Nellie Spencer, and Messrs. Johnny Jones and Fred Mears; whilst the chorus deserve credit for their excellent work. The pantomime was produced by Mr. J. Siman, with Mr. Harold Brewer as musical director.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT THE ELEPHANT.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Vivian, Duke of Phulnana..Miss Nora Martyn
Sir Goosie Drake .....Mr. Sid Kearns
Lady Duckie Drake .....O'Keefe
Snobbie Waxx .....Kisbey, "The Call Boy"
Angelina Waxx .....Mr. George Campbell
Ruthless Richard, Rugged Robert ... The Bros. Hannaway
Refrigerator .....Mr. Francis Lorimer
Sergeant .....Mr. Albert Jackson
Goody Two Shoes .....Miss Norah Neville
Betti O'Shall .....Miss Lola Patey
Guyzer the Gorgan .....Mr. F. W. Pedgrift
Electra .....Miss Rita Rhylle
Firefly .....Miss Edna Forester
Flora .....Miss Alva Harvey

For his seventh annual Christmas attraction Mr. Charles Barnard this season arranged with Messrs. Frederic Baugh and Fred Moule to produce the Elephant pantomime, and a novel and decidedly up-to-the-moment version of "Goody Two Shoes" delighted South-east Londoners, who crowded the popular theatre to the doors at the three "shows" on Boxing Day. Mr. Fred Moule has provided an interesting and sparkling book about the adventures of the little lady with her celebrated slipper, and we are pleasantly taken from the Gorgan's Home in the Land of Naughtibodi through Swansdown Village, the Land of Flowers, King Frost's Fairy Forest, into Whitehall, where a splendid and thrilling tableau, specially written by Mr. Fred Trussell, of the London Hippodrome, "The Allies in London," is introduced. Here the whole strength of the company find scope for their varied talents, the dance of Alva Harvey being particularly noticeable.

The musical element is a special feature of the pantomime. How blithely Miss Nora Martyn, who plays Vivian, sang "Are we all here? Yes!" This clever artiste also gave with irresistible charm that lively lyric, "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," to the delight of the boys and girls in front. Mr. Sid Kearns as Sir Goosie Drake was capital both in song and humour. Especially was the clever comedian to the fore in company with Miss Norah Neville in "I want to see a little more of you." The acting of the latter lady in the title-rôle was charming; as was also Miss Lola Patey as Goody's Ally, Betti O'Shall, her captivating delivery of "I'm Irish, and proud of it" being a success of the performance. O'Keefe did yeoman service as Lady Duckie Drake with an unlimited stock of drolleries and a rattling song. "What have we got to worry about?" Miss Alva Harvey as Flora, the Spirit of the Flowers, warbled sweetly a pretty lullaby, "Land of Flowers"; and Miss Rita Rhylle, a sparkling Electra, sang with verve "I thought you loved me." Kisbey, "The Call Boy," was, of course, largely to the fore, and contributed any amount of fun as Snobbie Waxx; Mr. George Campbell was very amusing as his downtrodden wife; while the Brothers Hannaway caused roars of laughter as the Baronet's Bullies, Ruthless Richard and Rugged Robert. Sergeant, the Zebra, was capably sustained by Mr. Albert Jackson; and Mr. Francis Lorimer is to be praised for his performance of Refrigerator, a (N)ice Horse. Miss Edna Forester as the Imp of Mischief and Mr. F. W. Pedgrift as Guyzer did effective work in their respective rôles. The knute and knutesses find vivacious representatives in the clever chorus, who materially contributed to the success of the show.

The pantomime, produced under the experienced eye of Mr. Fred Baugh, is richly mounted and dressed, with elaborate scenic effects, and scenery by Messrs. Harry Drury and Charles Jackson, the grand tableau, "Garden of Falling Waters," being a beautiful set. Mr. Wm. Stephenson skilfully controls the orchestra, and Mr. Fred Moule represents the firm of Messrs. Baugh and Moule as general manager for the pantomime, for which it is safe to prognosticate a sure success.

"ALADDIN" AT THE DALSTON.

Produced on Boxing Day.

IMMORTALS.

Slave of Lamp .....Mr. Harry Spawton
Geni of Ring .....Mlle. Favronowa

MORTALS.

Aladdin ..... Miss Mabel Funstan
Princess ..... Miss Ivy Moore
Widow Twankey .....Mr. Jess Sweet
Abanazar .....Mr. Charles Dent
Emperor .....Mr. Strafford Moss
Young Hyson .....Miss Daisy Mellon
Tidli Hi Ti .....Miss Violet Stinton
Tom Mi .....Miss Violet Dupre
Ho Fi .....Miss Mabel Isabelle
Hi Sing .....Miss N. Anderson
We Sung .....Miss Mona Fraser
Al Rong .....Miss D. Williams
Sou Chong ..... Miss P. Constance
Beau Ti .....Miss Olive Jeffrey
Pekoe .....Miss Freda Largo
Wishee Washee .....Mr. Cyril Delevanti
So Shi .....Miss May Morton
Kat Chee, Kop Ee .....The Harrison Brothers
Hi Fu .....Miss Gweenie Ward
Go Long .....Miss Pearl Leeson
Pretti Sing .....Miss Peggy Riske
So San .....Miss Constance Wright
Mi Mi .....Miss Violet Audain
Mi Hi ..... Miss Anita Barrett
Su Saw .....Miss Phyllis Large

For his annual pantomime at the Dalston Theatre Mr. J. Langdon Lee has this Christmas selected "Aladdin," and the programme, which, by arrangement with Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath, he presents, is one providing abundance of amusement. The pantomime is invented and written by Mr. F. Leslie Moreton, and the music is composed and arranged by Mr. Tom Sutton. Mr. Rowland Stagg is acting manager, Mr. Charles Henry stage-manager, and Miss Ida Alston ballet mistress, while the important details relating to the office of machinist and carpenter are undertaken by Mr. W. Poole.

The "book" and scenery of the pantomime is well varied, bright jokes and topical illusions abound, and the scenery, which is effective, is well managed. The story commences in Egypt, at the Pyramids, where Abanazar learns from the Slave of the Lamp Aladdin's whereabouts in Pekin, and at once sets forth in quest of the likely lad to secure the much-sought treasure. A good deal of fun is witnessed at a Chinese watering-place, and subsequently comes the contrast of the Magic Cavern. There is the customary comicalities at the Widow Twankey's Laundry, where Aladdin causes excitement by his arrival with the wonderful lamp, and concluding events take place amid such scenes as the Emperor's Palace, the Princess's Boudoir, and the Land of Gold.

The presentation of the pantomime is remarkably good. Mr. Harry Spawton makes an impressive Slave of the Lamp, and sings "Here's to the day" with good effect. Mlle. Favronowa (danseuse Russe) is a winsome Geni of the Ring, and her clever dancing is one of the features of the pantomime. Miss Mabel Funstan is a really charming Aladdin, and firmly establishes herself in the high favour of the Dalstonians. She acts with a naturalness most acceptable, and has a pleasing voice. She scores with the songs, "Are we down-hearted? No!" a topical geographical lesson (in which England is described as a small village near Dalston), and "Three cheers for the red, white and blue." She also joins in some taking duets with the Princess. Miss Ivy Moore is the Princess, and creates a favourable impression by her vocal efforts, which include "Won't you come and be my butterfly?" Mr. Strafford Moss is a cool and collected Emperor, and pleases with his songs, which include a very good one, "The Emperor of China." The audience fully appreciate the irony of the scene where the Emperor, in acknowledgment of some act of stage valour, presents two Chinese policemen with the iron cross. The Harrison Brothers appear as the Chinese policemen, Kat Chee and Kop Ee, who assume various disguises, and are responsible for a large share of the general merriment. Their song, "The day we saw Buffalo Bill," is much applauded.

Prominent as ever in the well-known story is the Widow Twankey, in this instance represented by Mr. Jess Sweet, who revels in the eccentricities peculiar to this lady, and, in the course of the song, "Old Moore's Almanack," gives startling information. The widow's song, "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," goes well. Abanazar has a quaintly humorous representative in Mr. Charles Dent. So well does he enact the part that onlookers are willing to accept the wily magician's oft-repeated assurance, forming his catch phrase, "It's a business on its own." Mr. Dent does some tricky dancing, and his songs, "Boys and girls have a drink with me" and "Here we are again," are favourites, the chorus of the last-named being heartily repeated by the audience. Miss Freda Large as Pekoe sings sweetly, one of her songs being "Some of these days." Miss May Morton is a winsome So Shi, and sings "I want to go back to Michigan"; Miss Daisy Mellon is Young Hyson, and Mr. Cyril Delevanti quietly makes his mark as Wishee Washee, and tunefully introduces his song, "Ding-dong." From first to last the pantomime forms an excellent entertainment.

"CINDERELLA," AT THE BROADWAY.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Rudolph ..... Miss Dorothy Craske
Cinderella ..... Miss Daisy West-Collins
Choddles ..... Mr. Tom E. Sinclair
Archibald ..... Mr. Frederic Bentley
Daisy ..... Mr. Charles Garry
Dandini ..... Mr. Neville Delmar
Arethusa ..... Miss Phyllis Dailley
Mopsa ..... Miss Nellie Sheffield
Princess Roxana ..... Miss Helen Hart
Gaston ..... Miss Winifred Etheridge
Cop ..... Mr. Jock Hood
Catchem ..... Mr. Harry Gould
Marquis of Perivale .. Miss Rosa Williamson
Duchess of Ravensbourne..Miss Anita Clayton
Lord Hatcham ..... Miss Constance Seal
Lord Catford ..... Miss Beatrice Dudley
Duke of Dulwich ..... Miss Joyce May
Earl of Peckham ..... Miss Maude Ortez
First Woodcutter ..... Mr. Rex Anderson
Second Woodcutter .... Mr. Morgan Rickards

All those who wish to forget all about "grim visaged war" for a fleeting hour or so should pay a visit to the Moss' Empires popular South London house, where the story of "Cinderella" is unfolded by Messrs. A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge in a delightful fashion, embellished with much genuine fun, sparkling music, and extremely beautiful scenery. The pantomime is the seventh which Moss' Empires have given us, and it is produced by arrangement with Messrs. Milton Bode and J. F. Graham.

The pantomime opens with a woodland glade in winter, which, by the Fairy Godmother's magic wand, is soon transformed into spring, the set being a very beautiful one. We are introduced in turn to the sweet Cinderella, and her two ugly sisters, who in this version of the old legend are not so ugly as they are usually depicted. Prince Rudolph meets Cinderella in the forest and makes love to her. Much fun is caused by the bickering of the little Baron and his tall wife, while the antics of the two brokers' men, Cop and Catchem, also make for laughter. Cinderella, all alone by the kitchen fire, lamenting her inability to attend the court ball, is comforted by her Fairy Godmother, and in Scene V., a very beautiful one, called The Toilet, we witness her departure in her handsome silver coach with the white ponies. The story then proceeds to its usual happy ending, the most noticeable scenes en passant being the ballroom, another gorgeous set, and the grand finale, the Fairy's Wedding, a fine piece of brushwork, enhanced by brilliant ballets and processions.

Miss Daisy West-Collins makes an ideal Cinderella, the acting of the rôle being far above the usual pantomime level, and one that would do credit to the legitimate stage. She has a very sweet voice, and gives delightful renderings of "When Irish eyes are smiling" and "The sunshine of your smile." Miss Dorothy Craske is a most handsome and dashing principal boy as Prince Rudolph, acting with unflagging energy throughout, while her songs, "Kitty at the telephone," "Make me the king of your heart," and "You're here, and I'm here," are thoroughly successful. Mr. Neville Delmar is a sprightly and well-groomed Dandini, and scores well with "Thumbs up" and "The whistling dandy." Mr. Frederic Bentley is an old favourite with New Cross audiences, and his impersonation of the diminutive and impecunious Baron is a very humorous one. Mr. Charles Garry is highly diverting as the formidable and austere Baroness, who is not, however, averse to a little flirtation when opportunity offers. Mr. Jock Hood as Cop and Mr. Harry Gould as Catchem are a pair of smart and amusing knockabout comedians. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair is mercurial and merry as Choddles, the Baron's Page. Miss Phyllis Dailley does well as the sentimental and poetical Arethusa, and Miss Nellie Sheffield is very bright and chic as the hoyden Mopsa. Miss Winifred Etheridge is good as Gaston, and her song, "Wonderful rose of love," is one of the chief hits of the pantomime. Miss Helen Hart plays well as Princess Roxana. Miss Dolly Fryett is a pleasing Fairy Godmother, and Miss Doris Buckley as Malevolentio, and Miss Celia Boutell as Icicle, distinguish themselves in their respective rôles. The scenery has been designed and painted by Messrs. Conrad Tritschler, R. J. McLennon, W. R. Coleman, and R. McCleery. Mr. James Haworth is the talented leader of the orchestra, and, in conjunction with Mr. Alfred Haines, he has composed some special numbers for the production. Mr. C. E. Deering is the courteous acting manager for the pantomime. The popular resident manager here, Mr. H. Buckstone Clair, is well to the front as usual, looking after the comfort of his numerous patrons. There is no doubt that "Cinderella" has quite captivated the hearts of the good folks of Deptford.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," AT LEWISHAM HIPPODROME.

Patrons of the Lewisham Hippodrome have good reason to congratulate the management on securing Mr. J. Bannister Howard's smart little pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," for Boxing Day and this week. A packed house on Boxing Day testified their hearty appreciation of the good things served up to them. The pantomime is in two parts, containing ten splendid scenes, the pick of which are the "Dance of the Fairy Beans" and the "Palace of Happiness." The book is witty, topical, and free from vulgarity, while the music has been most happily chosen and arranged.

The whole company worked with a will. Miss Molly Wynne as Jack makes a most gallant boy, and in her numbers "Now, are we all here?" and "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers" she showed a really fine sense of humour and sang with splendid verve and animation. Princess Pearl, Miss Dorothy Rosslyn looking the part to perfection, sang and danced charmingly, and her song "Somebody's coming to town," proved a most successful number. She and Jack made a pair of delightful lovers in a prettily executed duet, "You're here and I'm here, so what do we care?" Miss Violet Bartholomew as Margery was responsible for the ditty "I'm Irish, and proud of it, too," and won all hearts by her accent and clever dancing. Good fun was plentiful and Mr. Alfred Passmore as the Widow was responsible for a large share of it. His Paris confections were dreams (or nightmares), and his rendering of "Bo-peep" was a real gem. King Coddem, according to the programme, was played by Mr. Walter Wallis, but concert-goers had no difficulty in recognising the genial Mr. Walter Walters in the part, and that name is sufficient guarantee for a good brand of humour. His rendering of "I do like a s'nice s'mince s'pie" was excellent in every particular. Simple William had an able representative in Mr. Teddy Carlton, whose laugh alone was worth the entrance money, and his ballad "I'm silly Dick" was a laughable piece of foolery. The three gentlemen just mentioned gave an excellent burlesque of a minstrel troupe and a male trio. Mr. William Courtin's Giant was a fearsome creation, and the Family Cow was amusingly portrayed by Messrs. Forests and Fields, who were also successful as the Giant's Myrmidons. Those clever juveniles, Vera and Sid, cleverly played the parts of the Giant Babes, and proved most able dancers and funny little comedians. Miss Phyllis Pellisier, Miss Dolly Wilson, and Mr. H. Davis made the most of rather thankless parts, and a word of praise is due to Miss Rosalie Hamilton and the six little girls who were responsible for several pretty dances, notably in the "Dance of the Fairy Beans," which made a charming tableau. The whole production reflects great credit on all concerned, and the population of Lewisham will doubtless flock to see this clever little show.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT BRIXTON.

(Produced on Boxing Day.)

Mr. Newman Maurice has kept faithfully to the traditional story of the young apprentice who became London's Lord Mayor, and the popular legend loses nothing in his hands. A crowded house roared its appreciation of the doings of Dick and his Cat on Boxing Night, and this year's annual at the Brixton Theatre may be adjudged a popular success.

A good deal of this result is due to the excellent cast engaged. Dick is played in captivating style by Miss Nell Emerald, a comedienne with plenty of "dash," who, severely handicapped by a cold, rendered the many numbers allotted to her as well as could be expected under the circumstances. Dainty and pretty Miss Maudie Francis (an immense favourite at Brixton), fresh from her triumphs in musical comedy, was a dream of delight as Alice. Her vivacity and charm won the hearts of the audience at once. Miss Dorothy Maurice made a handsome Captain Swanker, and was responsible for several clever and lively dances, whilst the pas de deux executed by her and Miss Topsy Williams (Snowdrop) was cleverly done. Miss Gladys Carlton's sweet voice was heard to advantage as the Fairy Bow Bell, the Star Co.'s "Wonderful rose of love" being one of the hits of the evening. Miss Amy Randolph scored as Prince Rataplan of Morocco, and Miss Anna Hastings was good as the Princess.

Among the comedians, pride of place must be given to Mr. Freddie Wolgast as Idle Jack and Mr. Newman Maurice as Sarah, the Cook, who kept the house in excellent laughing form whenever they were on the stage. The latter's "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers" delighted everybody. Mr. Leonard Wallace lent assistance in the comedy department as Alderman Fitzwarren, his imitations speciality being much appreciated; and the Bros. Bernhart, a clever comedy duo, succeeded well as Lazy and Crazy. Mr. Archie Herbert as the Cat made the little people present roar at his feline antics, and surely more could not be expected of him than that; and Mr. H. Dobell-Lyle was an austere Emperor of Morocco. The Beau Belle troupe of lady dancers tripped the light fantastic in fascinating style, and a full chorus and ballet added to the general success. The scenery is excellent, Highgate Hill and The Emperor's Palace being triumphs of scenic art. Most of the popular numbers of the day are included, Feldman's and the Star Co.'s being conspicuous successes; whilst the general music is arranged by Mr. Burton Manning. Mr. Mason is Mr. Maurice's manager for the pantomime season, and he is ably assisted in front by Mr. S. R. Brown.

"DICK WHITTINGTON," AT WOOLWICH.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Rodento .....Mr. Fred J. Buxton
Concordia .....Miss Mildred Buxton
Dick Whittington .....Miss Queenie Mayor
Alice Fitzwarren .....Miss Josie Leyton
Alderman Fitzwarren .....Mr. Leigh Ellis
The Cat .....Mr. Billie Dean
Idle Jack .....Mr. Charlie Harvey
Amelia Florence .....Mr. Tom H. Solly
Silly Peter, Lazy Larry ..... Gray and White
Capt. Navycutte .....Miss Belle Taylor
Sir Algy de Mash .....Miss Freda Waring
Dorothy Maybloom .....Miss Nell Mayor
Hafiz Ali Ben Boozer ....Mr. Fred J. Buxton
Mhordee Lyzah .....Miss Edie Goodwin

"Dick Whittington," the Royal Artillery, Woolwich, pantomime, written and invented by Joseph L. Barry, with music by Bert Harding, follows the well-known story pretty closely, and reflects the highest credit upon the producer and personal supervisor, Mr. James Kiddie.

In the title-rôle we have one of the youngest and most vivacious principal boys, Miss Queenie Mayor. Her best numbers are "I'll make you love me," "If it's a lady—thumbs up," and "Now are we all here? yes." Miss Josie Leyton is a charming girl as Alice Fitzwarren, singing, acting, and dancing delightfully. The popular comedian Mr. Tom H. Solly is a capital "dame," and the fun is fast and furious whilst he is in possession of the stage. Miss Freda Waring plays a special boy's part, Sir Algy. She is a clever and dainty little lady, her best number being "My spooky girl." Gray and White provide endless fun as Larry and Peter, the Alderman's apprentices. Idle Jack is in the hands of that droll comedian Mr. Charles Harvey, and his song "A s'nice s'mince s'pie" goes terrific. Mr. Leigh Ellis is responsible for much merriment as the "skimpy" Alderman Fitzwarren, who wants everything on the "Cheap" side. Mr. Billie Dean is a fine animal impersonator and does extremely well as the Cat. Miss Belle Taylor as Captain Navycutte and Miss Nell Mayor as Dorothy Maybloom are both excellent. The King Rat, Rodento, is effectively enacted by Mr. Fred J. Buxton, and his despoiler, Concordia, has a charming impersonator in Miss Mildred Buxton. Specialities are introduced by various members of the company, and in addition to the above the Four Sisters Henriques, vocalists and dancers, do well. All the choruses are well rendered. The dresses are all most tasteful. The scenery has been specially designed and painted for Mr. J. Bannister Howard, whose company is presenting the pantomime. "The Palace of the Emperor" and "The Guildhall" are perhaps the most noteworthy scenes.

"SINBAD THE SAILOR," AT STRATFORD.

Pantomime, by Fred Fredericks and Percy Ford, Produced on Boxing Day, at the Borough Theatre.

Sinbad ..... Miss Ruth Lytton
Hassan ..... Miss Marie York
Haidee ..... Miss Dorothy Millar
Zaidee ..... Miss Alice Nixon
Mrs. Sinbad ..... Mr. Lawrence Barclay
Binbad ..... Mr. Albert le Fre
Tom Marlingspike, Ben Bowling ..... Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells
Abdullah ..... Mr. Lawrence Willing
Emperor ..... Mr. Bertram Burleigh
Anemone ..... Miss Alice Venning
Octopus ..... Miss Nora Nagle
Nina ..... Miss May Foster
Casima ..... Miss Florence Underwood
Saleem ..... Miss Julia Lisle
Cassim ..... Miss Mabel Travers

An audience that packed the spacious Borough Theatre from floor to ceiling on Boxing Day gave unmistakable proof that Mr. Fred Fredericks has added yet another to his list of pantomime successes. The book, which is from the fertile pen of Mr. Percy Ford, follows the adventurous career of the gallant Sinbad rather more closely than is usual in Christmas productions, whereat the juvenile mind will rejoice, and there is quite a galaxy of interpolated comedy business, songs, and concerted numbers.

The pantomime is produced in ten scenes, commencing with the Port of Balsora, and hence to the deck of the "Laughing Lizzie," the wreck of which leads on to the "Entrance to the Diamond Valley." Then on to the "Slave Market" scene, and finally is depicted the "Palace of Badasheeh," wherein the harmonious blending of scenic effects and picturesque dresses, displayed by comely wearers in rhythmical marches, arouses cordial admiration.

Of the principals engaged, Miss Ruth Lytton as Sinbad plays in genial and dashing style and quickly becomes a favourite. Vocally she scores heavily with "Irish, and proud of it," "Are we downhearted?" and a Scottish number in costume, "Wedding of Annie Laurie." Miss Dorothy Millar is a pretty and piquant "principal girl" as Haidee, and her songs go wonderfully well. "Who is the girl you're going to meet to-night?" is rendered very coquettishly, whilst "Kiss me good-bye, my little soldier man," and "I'll make you want me" also win very loud applause. Miss Marie York makes a capital Hassan, and "When Irish eyes are smiling" is a highly popular number in her hands. Miss Alice Nixon is a graceful and girlish Zaidee, and her rendering of "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers" receives ready recognition.

Mr. Albert le Fre as Sinbad is a constant source of mirth, and he works indefatigably. His songs and dances are extremely well received, and he is particularly successful with "I do like nice mince pies." Mr. Lawrence Barclay is an energetic and bustling Mrs. Sinbad, and is always successful in his efforts to amuse. His comedy interludes with Sinbad are highly diverting, and he has a capital number in "When I first met my husband." Woodhouse and Wells as Tom Marlingspike and Ben Bowling have much to do with the success of the pantomime, their droll methods, witty conundrums, clever cross-talk and resourcefulness making their occupancy of the stage a real pleasure. Miss Alice Venning plays with charm as the fairy Anemone, and sings with expression; and the wicked old man of the sea, Octopus, has a diminutive and dramatic representative in Miss Nora Nagle. A special word must be said for Miss Adele Irene's speciality dances, which elicit much praise.

The large and efficient chorus are under the able baton of Mr. Ben Barrow, the Borough chef d'orchestre, who is responsible for the tuneful music; and that the initial performance went so smoothly, credit is due to the stage manager, Mr. Moss. Compliments are due to Mr. George Dobson for the fine scenery.

Mr. Fred Fredericks received a flattering reception at the conclusion of the performance, which should augur well for the prosperity of his latest annual.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT KENNINGTON.

Pantomime, by Frank Dix, Produced on Boxing Day.

Ali Baba .....Mr. Jack Sheridan
Cogia Baba .....Mr. Willie Garvey
Caesim Baba .....Mr. W. E. Brandon
Zo Zeebah .....Albert Felino
Ganem .....Miss Jessie Lonnen
Abdullah .....Miss Queenie Leighton
Kasrac .....Miss Neill
Hassarac .....Ivor Vinter
Rassarac .....Mr. Sylvester Stuart
Gretel .....Miss Vera Vere
Morgiana .....Miss Gladys Guy
Mustapha .....Mr. A. J. Cramer
The Nakeeb .....Mr. J. Ward
Efreet of the Cave .....Ivan Kotchinsky
Spirit of Mischief .....Miss Rita Zalmani

There is no mistaking the popularity of the theme of Kennington's pantomime. Any pantomime with looting in it is bound to be right in the current just now, especially when the looting is carried out by Forty Looters of the most alluring pattern ever seen on any stage, and with a captain at their head, the last word in dash and smartness, in the person of Miss Queenie Leighton—who, when she is not a-looting, sings some particularly good songs in a telling voice, such as "The lads of the village," a ditty of appealing patriotic tendencies. Then the quantity and quality of the loot gathered together in the Magic Cave really merit the dignity of the term Annexation, and the sternest moralists are put right out of business at the outset. Then, again, the scene of the depredations is such a long, long way from home; in fact, round about the spot where Ali Baba, of immortal memory (otherwise Mr. Jack Sheridan), lived, and incidentally took to wife that fascinating Eastern houri Cogia Baba, who turns out to be Mr. Willie Garvey. Why Ali, the Arabian wood-cutter, should appear in the tight nethers and top-hat of the typical London low comedian is one of pantomime's little aberrations into which it is not correct to inquire too closely; but anyhow, the two, barring the inevitable little matrimonial spars, seem to have a rare jolly time of it, and keep the house in continual roars of laughter with their robust fun and abounding vitality. But the mirth-provoker who captures the children's fancy is Mr. Albert Felino, disguised as Ze Zeebah, an agile donkey with a haunting bray and the gladdest of glad eyes. Ze Zeebah can do everything but talk, and his beastly intelligence (though that hardly seems a happy way of putting it!) must be seen to be realised. Miss Vera Vere as Gretel works very hard, too, and gets a lot of fun out of the part of a slave-girl. And then there is Ivor Vinter, who, tiny as he is, is a great find, and quite all there in the garb of the Lieutenant of the Forty Thieves. He sings songs about the "Sea-side" and "The last girl on earth" in an engaging baby voice, and with a keen appreciation of their fruity points almost disconcerting in one so young. Tall and slender is Ganem (Miss Jessie Lonnen), and sweet-voiced and charming is Morgiana (Miss Gladys Guy), and they are dainty dancers both of them.

As for the production, sumptuous is the only word for it. Mr. Milton Bode has once more accomplished the apparently impossible, and surpassed himself. If he had not done so he would have had to reckon with the Kenningtonians, who know good things when they see them—indeed, they have been brought up on them. The costumes are gorgeously Eastern; and the scenes, particularly "A Glade in the Forest," with beautiful light effects, and "The Interior of the Cave," are very striking. In the Cave scene Mr. W. E. Brandon, in the part of Cassim, when he forgets the magic word which unlocks the door, mocked and jeered at by the Spirit of Mischief (Miss Rita Zalmani) and the Efreet of the Cave (Mr. Ivan Kotchinsky), gives us quite a blood-curdling representation of the tortured mind of the avaricious brother of Ali. It is an astonishingly good bit of acting—almost outside the confines of Christmas pantomime.

Mr. Frank Dix is responsible for the book, full of good things; and Messrs. Jullien H. Wilson and Knight Pearce provide the music, cheerful and of a rich cornety flavour, which helps the house out wonderfully when the choruses come along.

"SINBAD" AT WIMBLEDON.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland presented his fifth annual pantomime on Boxing afternoon, when an enthusiastic audience occupied the entire seating capacity of this large theatre. The subject chosen is the familiar Eastern fairy tale of Sinbad the Sailor, and while the story is related in a new and attractive setting, all the details so dear to children are depicted, such as the shipwreck, the scene of the roc's egg, and the discovery of the valley of diamonds. The principal ingredient of this pantomimic pudding is undoubtedly a generous quantity of fun, laughter being heard right through the afternoon.

The company engaged is a very capable one, and all worked with a will to ensure success. Sinbad the Sailor, was enacted with spirit and brightness by Miss Gladys Warren, a handsome principal boy, who caused much approbation by her rendering of "Thumbs up" and "Who are you going to meet to-night?" As his sweetheart, Rubia, Miss Ethel Beech was quite successful, and sang very pleasantly, "Irish eyes are smiling," and a duet with Sinbad. Miss Rita Everard looked well and acted well as Abdullah, Sinbad's best friend, while Miss Emil Zajah danced very charmingly as Zobedie, an Eastern houri. Miss Rosalind Chard, as the Fairy Roonah, who defeats the evil designs of the Storm King, delivered her ballads with excellent expression and pleasing voice.

A quartet of laughter makers must be congratulated on the splendid results of their efforts to amuse. Mr. Fred Lyne was immensely droll as Mrs. Sinbad, and his two songs, "Beautiful spring-onions" and "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," were well applauded. Mr. Jack Straw in a special part, that of Hinbad, was richly humorous in a dry manner, while Mr. Harry Harrigan, and Mr. Will Holt, as the two merry mariners, Bill and Tom, were the source of peals of merriment whenever they were on the stage. Their songs, "Posters on the wall" and "Here comes the gentleman in blue," were most popular. Mr. Cecil Friedlander, as the envoy of the Emperor played his part to everyone's satisfaction, and Mr. Grafton Williams as the Emperor ("no relation to the other," so the programme said), was very commendable, his song, with chorus of wives, "That's why I like the dark," being capitally rendered. Mr. Darroll Richards as the Storm Fiend, gave evidence of his deep, rich voice in "England, happy England," while Mr. Tom G. Warren was a picturesquely garbed Old Man of the Sea. Miss Joan Maxse as a fascinating mermaid, Mr. Uzelli as Hadji, the elephant attendant, Miss Dorothy Seacombe as Hassan, and Miss Belle Rivers as Zuleika, all deserve praise.

The ballets and dances were arranged by Mme. Estelle, the aerial ballet by Messrs. Kirby, and the pantomime was produced by Mr. Ivan Capell. The scenery was all of a high order, and the realistically portrayed shipwreck cleverly arranged. The pantomime can only remain for two weeks as it is to be presented at the King's, Hammersmith, on Jan. 11.

"THE COCKYOLLY BIRD" REVIVED AT THE LITTLE.

On Saturday, Dec. 26, Mrs. Percy Dearmer's play for children, "The Cockyolly Bird," was revived at the Little Theatre, and bids fair to be as popular with little and big folk as it was last year, for, as Mrs. Dearmer says, through one of the characters, "We are all children really in our hearts, and we all cry for the moon." The play is a real child's play, and the sayings are the real, quaint, delightful sayings of children. Miss Fay Lilmar is a perfect dear as Kit, just a jolly, naughty little girl-boy, and as the Cockyolly Bird Miss Dorothy Manville displays very real ability, both in acting and dancing. Mr. Harry Livesey, a newcomer, is first rate as the Polar Bear. On Monday afternoon "Mother, a Very Nice Person," was beautifully played by Miss Amy Ravenscroft, in the place of Miss Lettice Fairfax, while Miss Margaret Watson is exactly right as Miss Brown. Little Miss Doris Prosser is the sweetest little Jappy girl, Miss Elsie Grenville is such a dear little black doll that she makes us want to buy her, Mr. Leonard Calvert is pleasantly voracious as the Cannibal Kin gand the other members of the long cast are all just as good as they ought to be.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's new play, "The Lie," was produced on Christmas Eve at Harris's Theatre, New York, and met with a hearty reception. The play deals with a sister's sacrifice.

Miss Winifred Barnes did not appear at the Saturday matinée of "Betty," through indisposition, and her part was taken up at a minute's notice by Miss Queenie Young, a very charming substitute, who got through very creditably, and whose dainty acting and singing were heartily appreciated.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"CINDERELLA AND THE LITTLE GLASS SLIPPER" AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

The Christmas pantomime at the Hippodrome is "Cinderella; or, the Little Glass Slipper," written and arranged by Mr. E. C. Jazon; music by Mr. A. T. McInnes; dresses by Messrs. Morris Angel, Hyman and Co., and Mme. May and Assistants; scenery by Messrs. E. Williams and Co. The synopsis embraces eight scenes from the opening —"A Forest Glade"—to the grand finale—"The Prince's Palace." Miss Lilian Errol very prettily and intelligently impersonates "Cinders," and she sings and dances well. Miss Edith Harmer makes a dashing pantomime boy as Prince Brilliant, and Miss Vera Elmore is full of spirits and fun as Dandini. Miss Ethel Brown as Dorothy, the pet of the village, is full of vivacity and charm. Miss Ethel Brailsford must be credited with her show of talent, both as singer and graceful actress, as Queen Bountiful, the fairy godmother. Arabella and Isabella, Cinder's elder sisters, are sustained with much humour by the Sisters Sprightly. In the farcical department Ernie Crosby as Baron Crooked indulges largely in the customary buffoonery—very funny and very laughable. Messrs. Angers and Escott are a couple of drolls as Court Bailiffs; and Mr. Leo Fields figures largely as a humorous Buttons, the Baron's page. The young ladies and gentlemen who pose and pirouette and sing as chorus are equal to all demands.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

Mr. Chas. Revill's Christmas annual, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," produced at the Theatre Royal on Christmas Eve, is a very fine "show" as staged under the ægis of Messrs. Dottridge and Longden. Some very pretty scenes, nine in all, beginning with "Old 'Chepe,' London," and ending with the "Emperor's Palace in Morocco," are shown, and there is a series of situations of great fun and bustle.

The special songs and music are given by permission of Feldman's, Messrs. Francis, Day and Hunter, Witmark's National Music Co., and Messrs. Williams; the dresses by Mrs. Howorth and Assistants; the scenery painted by Mr. H. O. Richardson, and made by Mr. Taylor.

The company is a very capable combination of pantomime artistes. Miss Ethel Hall makes a sprightly Dick, and is full of that spirit of fun which is the essence of good pantomime. Miss Kitty Trewhitt is a charming Alice, acting the part winningly and dressing it neatly. Mr. Stanley Lauri is the Cat, and well carries out the traditions of the Lauri family in the impersonation of animals. Mr. L. Howard is a fun-making Alderman Fitzwarren; and Mr. Mark Stuart is ludicrous in the extreme as Idle Jack. Mr. Jack Warmar is a sufficiently comical Mrs. Dessicated Edwards, the cook. Miss Gertie Warwick as Lord Algernon and Miss Dolly Crown as Nell o' the Mall are a sprightly pair; while as Jack of Bow Bells, Miss Doris Williamson excites much fun; and Peg of Old Drury is well placed in the hands of Miss Edna Clyde. The Dalson Bros. do well as Bowline and Barnacle, Mr. Frank Melville is good as the Emperor, and Miss Gracie Fields is a suitable Princess. Mr. Jos. Dixon is good as the King of Rats.

"SINBAD, THE SAILOR" AT BIRMINGHAM.

"Sinbad, the Sailor," at the Theatre Royal, is an unqualified success, and should rank foremost of first-class productions in the provinces. With two such comedians as George Robey and Fred Emney one can imagine the result. There is also nothing lacking in a spectacular sense, and the orchestration throughout is one of the strongest features. Mr. Philip Rodway and Mr. George M. Slater are responsible for the production, and they have done their work well. Mr. Slater is also author of the book, and the musical department previously referred to has been under the contol of Mr. Harry Rushworth.

The comedy element is unusually varied and entertaining, and the most highly amusing interludes are when George Robey and Fred Emney are working together. The latter retains his skits as Mrs. Tinbad, and George adopts the new rôle of Tinbad, the spouse. There are screams of laughter as Tinbad proceeds to photograph his good lady; there is no lapse of mirth when they and the Caliph (Fred J. Little) find themselves stranded on a "Noneinhabited Island," and they indulge in a minstrel show; but the merrymaking reaches the climax when Tinbad and his wife are found in their own house, and after a little henpecking scream, which is admirably carried out, they proceed to paper the walls. In comedy work with the Caliph, who is sound throughout, Fred Emney is always funny, his occasional hints for a little "nip" being delightful. The next prominent character in the comedy line is Jacko, Sinbad's monkey, wonderfully portrayed by Edward Sillward. He is a big favourite with the children.

Miss Nora Delaney is a fascinating Sinbad, so stately and refined, and yet forceful through her dignity. She is handsome and attractive, and possesses a beautiful voice. She scores with "Irish eyes," but is more effective in the one patriotic incident of the evening, where, backed up by all the chorus ladies, wearing robes representing the different nations, she renders "We sang 'God save the King.'" Miss Margot Kelly is charming, and is particularly successful with her song, "Beautiful baby doll," and she is very attractive in a duet with Sinbad. Miss Florence Sweetman as second boy is an artiste of great promise. Always a favourite at this theatre, Miss Florence Phillips excels her past performances in three beautiful dances, and both in the terpsichorean and vocal departments Russell's Eight Sydney Girls are always in the picture. Miss Margaret Dudley is a pretty fairy.

There are some charming ladies in the chorus, and they present the beautiful gowns provided most effectively. The scenery is up to the standard of this theatre, and among the effects is a huge bird, upon which Sinbad makes an exit. Mr. Frank Gordon is acting as stage manager, and in front of the house Mr. Frank Smith undertakes the responsible duties of acting manager.

"ALADDIN" AT BRADFORD.

Under most favourable auspices, and in the presence of a packed audience on Christmas Eve, Mr. Francis Laidler produced his thirteenth pantomime here. The story of "Aladdin" presents fine scope for spectacular effects, but we are compelled to admit that we were hardly prepared for the gorgeous feast of splendour and glitter presented; and so perfect and free from the slightest hitch was the representation that it was difficult to realise the fact that we were witnessing an initial performance. Twelve scenes are devoted to the unfolding of the story as told by Mr. Arthur W. Field, whose humour is of the brightest, and if not quite in accord with the oldest traditions, his version has the merit of coherency. Messrs. Dodsworth, Spencer, and Holmsley are responsible for the charming scenery, and very striking effects in colouring and beauty of design are noticeable in "the Market Place in Pekin," "The Willow Tree Gardens," "Aladdin's Palace," "Cafe in Pekin," and "The Garden of Glitter." Mr. Laidler has excelled himself in the selection of the costumes, which are charmingly designed, beautiful in colour and harmony with the surroundings, and in perfect taste. The fun is prolific, in fact there is hardly a dull moment, and amongst the special features introduced which command admiration and applause are the acts, marches, and dancing of Mr. Laidler's clever "Little Sunbeams," and the dancing of the pretty Pauline Girls. The musical director, Mr. Arthur Fawcett, has strung together some charming numbers for the pantomime, which promises to be a signal success, rivalling Mr. Laidler's previous efforts, and reflecting the highest credit on Mr. Leonard Neville, his stage manager. Miss Mona Vivian is a charmingly buoyant and bright exponent of Aladdin, who quite wins her audience; her dancing is excellent, and she scores with her songs, "The Gobbleums will get you" (assisted by the children), "Never mind," "Dixie," and "The Butterfly."

Miss Aimee Stewart flits very prettily through her part of the Princess So-Shi, and her vocal successes are "I wish I were not a princess," "The rose of love," and "Make me the queen of your heart." Miss Cecile de Banke fills her part as Saucee with commendable brightness; as Pekoe, Miss Minnie Myrle is graceful and charming, and her fine vocal effort, "The sunshine of your smile," won great applause. Reg. Bolton as Abanazar guarantees a fund of irresistible humour; he is a comedian to the finger tips, and with his quaint singing of "Sister Sue" he elicited roars of laughter. Will Lindsay gives us something out of the ordinary line as a broad Yorkshire Widow Twankey, with two humorous ditties, "The girl scout," and "S'nice s'mince s'pie;" Mr. Norman H. Lee is very funny as Wishee Washee; Mr. James Chippendale makes the most of his opportunities as the Grand Vizier; Mr. Harry Mills helps to keep the fun going, too, as the Emperor; the Bros. Lavelle as Coppa and Stoppa are a pair of diverting acrobatic comedians; Miss Mary O'Hara prettily represents the Genie of the Ring; and Mr. C. R. Gordon very cleverly impersonates the Slave of the Lamp.

"HUMPTY DUMPTY" AT BRISTOL.

This pantomime, which was produced on Christmas Eve, is the forty-eighth seen at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. The book was specially written for this theatre by J. Hickory Wood and R. C. Oldham, and the pantomime was produced under the stage direction of Mr. John A. Howitt, and the personal supervision of Mr. James Macready Chute and Mr. John Hart. The story, much on accepted lines, is clearly told, some of the dialogue is sparkling, and the music reflects much credit on Mr. George R. Chapman, the musical director of the theatre, who ably conducted. Some special numbers are by Henri Jaxon and Gordon Hart. Probably, from a spectacular point of view, this pantomime excels any previously produced at this theatre, the tournament and coronation in the Court Yard of the Castle, the procession of the British Empire in the Palace scene, and the concluding "Fairyland," which reminds one somewhat of the old transformation scene at its best, are magnificent examples of stage production and exquisite scenery and appointments. Mr. R. C. Oldham, Mr. D. G. Hall and Mr. S. Alexander are responsible for the scenery, and well have they done their work. The costumes, which are rich, elegant and tasteful, were designed by Comelli, and executed by Miss O'Brien (wardrobe mistress of the theatre) and assistants. Some very attractive dances have been arranged by Mme. Marie Royce, and special mention should be made of the Grand Cornfield Ballet, which is most cleverly executed by the Eight Tabaran Girls and a large well-trained ballet. The scenes presented include: "The Castle Walls," "Official Residence of the Master of Ceremonies," "Pump Room at Hotwells," "Court Yard of the Castle," "The Palace," "The Waxworks," "The Emigration Agency," "Terrace of the Palace," "On the Wall," and "Fairyland."

That popular pantomime artiste and musical comedy actress, Miss Dorothy Ward, makes a very handsome and dashing Humpty Dumpty, acting admirably and singing delightfully, scoring in particular with the patriotic song (with chorus), "Motherland and our King," which forms an impressive conclusion to the first part of the pantomime. Mr. Shaun Glenville, a clever comedian, makes a fine part of Jarvis (Master of Ceremonies), and works hard, and always with success, throughout the performance. Mr. Rowland Hill makes a capital dame of Mrs. Pinch. Mr. Ernest J. Langford presents a quaint and clever study of King Musty Fusty, and does some eccentric dancing in good style. Miss Mona Mannering is charmingly dainty as the Princess, and speaks her lines well. Miss Margaret Kean is pleasing as Pansy (the Princess's attendant). Miss Dorothy Leigh makes a smart King's Squire of Brian. Mr. Kit Keen does well as Happy Billy Black, and introduces specialities of song, dance and bone rattling. Mr. J. Noel Leyland is an impressive Demon Maliciso. Miss Lilian Birtles is both attractive and clever as the Fairy Titania, and Mr. George Elliston and Mr. H. Blaker do well as the Furniture Remover and a Yokel. A large contingent of Extra Ladies, all beautifully dressed, add distinction to the processions and grouping; clever and artistic dances are introduced by the Eight Tabaran Girls; and an excellent and amusing act is given by Clark's Crazy Cycling Comedians. The pantomime went without a hitch on Christmas Eve, and it was fully appreciated by all parts of the house, which was well filled.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT BRISTOL.

This excellent and amusing pantomime was produced on Boxing Day at the Theatre Royal, Bristol. The book is by Mrs. Ernest Carpenter, and it tells a concise story of Jack's adventures. Suitable music has been composed, arranged and selected by Mr. Edwin Jacobs; attractive dances have been arranged and cleverly executed by Lottie Stone's Scotch Troupe; the sumptuous costumes are by Miss Ada Macdonald and assistants. The entire pantomime was produced under the personal supervision of Mr. Fred W. Carpenter, and it is ably stage managed by Mr. Charles P. Cooke. The story is worked out in ten scenes, comprising :—"Village of Mirthdale," "Lovers' Lane," "Market Place," "Road Home," "Poppy Land," "Dame Durden's Cottage," "The Beanstalk," "Courtyard of Castle Grim," "Back to Earth," and "Jack's Wedding Fête." Special mention should be made of the Giant Poppyland scene, which includes a very pretty and artistic ballet of fairies and poppies; and the elaborate Palace scene, in which the chorus appears in silver armour. The excellent and well-balanced company is headed by Miss René Ralph as Jack, and Miss Jean Le Roy as Betty, both artistes of considerable merit, and also pleasing vocalists. Miss Cissy Norton and Miss Mable Manville do excellently as Dickory Dock and Dorcas; Miss Kitty Farrell is pleasing as Dolly; the Misses Blanche and Marie Montague do capitally as Boy-Blue and Bo-Peep, scoring a success with their speciality song and dance; Miss Grace Allison speaks her lines admirably as Sylvia (Jack's Good Fairy), and scores with a monologue which is taken up and much appreciated in the form of a chorus. Mr. Leon Dubois gives a capital animal study as Bovrilla Maud, the Cow. The Brothers Ford present specialities and play effectively as Johnny and Bertie (the Nuts of the Village). Mr. Willie Reid makes a good part of, and works hard as, Baron Baddelotte. Mr. Charles Lestrange does all that is possible with the character of the Giant Blunderbuss. Dame Durden is played by Mr. Arthur Carlton, who makes quite a character study of the part, and Mr. Bobbie Comber works really hard as Billy Buttons (the Baron's Page), his songs and comedy being much appreciated.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT CARDIFF.

Packed houses at the New Theatre on Boxing Day greeted Messrs. Milton Bode and Robert Redford's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," around whose fortunes a very witty story has been written by Mr. G. M. Slater. It is full of fun, gaiety, and good humour. The scenery of the production is very striking, the Forest and the Exterior of Guildhall, which wind up the first and second parts respectively, being two delightful sets, which reflect high praise on Mr. J. Markwell Davis. Mr. John Foster and Mr. John Leonard are also responsible for several successful scenes. A word of praise should also be given to the costumes, which are very tasteful.

Miss Nellie Wigley, as the principal boy, Prince Roland, has a commanding personality, and acts in a dashing and convincing style. She has several delightful numbers, which she renders with exceptional spirit. Miss Minnie Muir is a captivating Maid Marian, and sings in bewitching style, her best number being "When Irish eyes are smiling" and "Beautiful baby doll." The comedy element is a great feature this season, mainly owing to the humorous work of Messrs. Billy and Frank Bass as the Ruffians and Mr. Jack Shires as the Village Policeman. The business of this trio is exceptionally clever, and while they occupy the stage the laughter is uproarious. Mr. Laurie Wylie as Dame Podgers, Mr. Murray Moore as the Baron, Miss Lulu Fancourt as Sarah Jane, and Mr. Archie Pitt as Nobby also add to the fun. Mr. Murray Moore scores in the witty song, "Setting the village on fire," and a parody on Tipperary by three of the comedians is a source of much amusement. Miss Cissie Varley and Miss Phyllis Smith are the Babes, and a most creditable portrayal is given by each of these talented little actresses. Miss Maggie Ward gains approbation as the Good Fairy. Special attractions are Miss Madge Martin's Snow Ballet, and the Russian dancer, Katrina Blakowski. The pantomime is produced by Mr. George Rowlands, under the supervision of Mr. Milton Bode, the music being specially written and composed by Mr. Knight Pearce. The whole performance is one which reflects high praise on all concerned.

"CINDERELLA" AT CHELTENHAM.

One could not wish for better entertainment than is provided by Messrs. F. Leslie Morton and Guyton Heath's fairy pantomime, "Cinderella," produced on Boxing Day with every happy augury of success at the Opera House. The book, originally treated by Mr. Stanley Rogers, is good; the scenic effects are glorious, particularly The Fairy Boudoir, and the delightful setting of "Love's young dream"; Cinderella's Kitchen is also a really capable set. The dresses are pretty and smart, the ballets are beautiful, and the chorus work unusually good. The gentleman mainly responsible for this happy state of affairs, Mr. James R. La Fane—director, producer, manager, and what not?—is to be sincerely and heartily congratulated. Altogether it is a most pretty, bright, and amusing edition of a popular theme.

Miss Nonny Locke is an ideal Cinderella, her manner winsome, her voice both sweet and clear, heard at its best in "Sandy boy" and "When Irish eyes are smiling," the latter assisted by a most charming grouping of a chorus of Irish lasses and lads. The Prince finds a charming exponent in Miss Maud Diamond, whose walk alone enthrals, and whose gallant, debonair love making it would be a delight to emulate. She sings "Some of these days" in a particularly taking manner; Miss Marie Gros is a dainty, withal vivacious, Dandini, excelling in song and dance, her chief success being "Kitty on the telephone"; Miss Vera Wightman as the Fairy Godmother had quite a lot to do, and does it very nicely, her rendering of "The sunshine of your smile" being one of the hits; Miss Minnie Rayner as the Baron's Wife does splendid work, and is a capital foil to Mr. Bertram Noel as the Baron de Debtington, surely one of his best parts, his topical ditty, "Who smashed Bill Kaiser" pleased the house immensely, particularly when the points get home. Mr. Bert Charles as Elvira, the Ugly Sister, is absolutely irresistible, and will be more so when given free rein; his geography lesson anent the Allies took the house by storm. He is admirably played up to by Mr. Henry Barrett, as Araminta, not by any means an "ugly" sister; the business of this admirable pair of comedians kept the house on the roar. Mr. Dan Kelsey, too, as Capers, another gifted comedian, played capitally all through as Cinderella's faithful henchman. Mr. Henry Carlisle did well as Joseph, the flunkey, and we believe this gentleman impersonated the huge German wrestler who was defeated in combat by the Baron in a side-splitting skit. Mention should also be made of Miss Margery Malyon as the Duke, the Six Merry Macs, whose dancing is one of the joys of the piece, seen at their best in "Rag-a-muffin" two-step. The chorus work is quite operatic, "Here we are again" going with such a swing as to set all heels tapping. The orchestra was in the capable hands of Mr. Warwick Moore.

"ALADDIN" AT CROYDON.

At the production on Boxing Day at the Hippodrome, Croydon, of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's pantomime, "Aladdin," by Mr. Tom Macfarlane, a large audience amply testified their approval of the feast of up-to-date music and fun provided. Artistic scenery, in many elaborate and valuable sets, give an effect that is simply irresistible. We can particularly mention under this head "Pekin Market Day," "Aladdin's Home," and the "Throne Room of the Palace." The orthodox story is told in an entertaining manner by Mr. Fred Bowyer, whose narrative is unfolded in a masterly and light-hearted vein. There is a wealth of pretty music, and for this we can give Mr. J. Ellis Midgley unlimited credit. He has cleverly selected, composed and adapted the various melodies which are such a prominent feature in the pantomime. There are plenty of well-known songs culled from the extensive repertoire of Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., the Lawrence Wright Music Co., the Star Music Co., and Messrs. Francis and Day. Being two performances a night and matinées, everything has to be worked smartly, and the animation of the whole show proves very close rehearsal with a company of artistes in which there are no square pegs in round holes. Miss Lillie Lassah in the title rôle quite justifies her selection by sustaining the part with a brightness and spirit that are most exhilarating. She is easy and natural, and whether singing or dancing, has the audience always with her. She also has the advantage of a nice partner to work with in Miss Billie Evelyn as the Princess Badroulbadour. This painstaking lady is distinctly happy and pleasing, and her coquettish ways win an easy victory. Mr. Will Judge is great in his business as the Widow Twanky, and is absolutely in his glory. He introduces no little drollery in the part, and evokes loud shouts of laughter all the time he is on the stage. Mr. George F. Story is entrusted with the important character of Abanazar, and his performance does not lack histrionic power and effect. Very neat and well dressed is Miss Nan Fruin as Pitti Sing, whilst Miss K. Zola favourably distinguishes herself as Prince Pekoe. Mr. A. W. Bartlett as the Emperor of China adds much to the spirit of the pantomime; Miss Majorie Dane is "quite all right" as the Slave of the Ring; and Mr. T. Macfarlane makes the part of the Slave of the Lamp as important as possible. Messrs. Harley and Melton as the Chinese policemen, Bobee and Bobi, are received with every manifestation of approval, and they certainly are a refreshing pair of comedians. Litfle Zola succeeds in putting himself on excellent terms with the audience as Wishee Washee; his fun and jollity are endless. Useful assistance is given by Miss Gertie Orchard (Fairy Queen) and Miss D. Athelston (Dan Dee). A pretty and well-balanced chorus appear to be never flagging in their efforts, and there is not a dull moment in the whole of the pantomime.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT CROYDON.

Mr. Wentworth Croke, the esteemed general manager of the Grand Theatre, Croydon, has good reason to be proud of the success on Boxing Day of the first pantomime (produced by Mr. Will Cutler) since his able and businesslike experience was brought to bear upon the management of this house. A well written and witty book, following the recognised version of the story, has been put forward by Mr. Arthur Rigby on the ever-green subject of "Dick Whittington," and the lines reveal care and attention. An attractive feature is the music by Mr. Frank Bradsell, the pantomime being full of melody, catchy airs, and lively dance music. The scenery by Mr. Harold Gibbins is above the average, some exquisite sets, "Ye Olde Cheapside," "Palace of Morocco," "Highgate Hill," and "London Guildhall," having been painted. The beautiful dresses have been designed and supplied by Mme. Castles, and a special beauty chorus wear them to considerable advantage.

The cast is an exceptionally distinguished one, and includes that inimitable panto. dame, Mr. Fred Spencer, in the character of Betsy. Never vulgar, always artistic, Mr. Spencer gives an agreeable embodiment of ripe exuberant vitality. Another quaint and whimsical character is that of Alderman Fitzwarren as played by Mr. Jackson Browne, who never allows the fun to flag. The rôles of Captain and Mate are sometimes considered minor parts, but this is not the case in the hands of Messrs. Stephens and Rennior. Their very appearance is the signal for merriment. An agile and clever cat, Mouser, is submitted by Mr. Edgar Mac, and his business throughout is delightful. Mr. Alec Daimler renders sterling services with a droll and curiously humorous portrayal of Idle Jack. Mr. Harold Perry is entertaining as the Emperor; Mr. David Keir makes a decided hit with his dancing in the rôle of Sandy Boy, and the parts of Fairy of the Chimes and Rosie are adequately filled by Misses Maud Burleigh and Lily Mac.

The title-rôle is in the trusty and reliable hands of Miss Hazel Glade, who from the first was tremendously popular. She has a sweet voice of good compass, and her vocal numbers are all creditably rendered. Miss Lily Arthur is the principal girl, Alice Fitzwarren, and she plays with warmth and finish. Miss Daisie Clementa is cheerful and pretty as the Princess of Morocco, Miss Dolly Daimler maeks a piquant and pleasing Polly, and Miss Sadie Sadler dresses most attractively and deserves praise as Tommy. Ross's troupe of eight Rosettes perform terpsichorean wonders, with clever Mlle. Anette Cambrai as principal dancer; and noteworthy items are Kirby's spectacular aerial ballet, and a humpsty-bumpsty act by Lily and Mac. A comic interlude, "First Aid," gives Mr. Fred Spencer unlimited opportunities of causing uncontrollable mirth. The principal songs include: "It's a long way to Tipperary," "When Irish eyes are smiling," "Boys in khaki, boys in blue," "If I thought you loved me," "Kitty in the City," "My soldier laddie," "I love the ladies," "Love me, when love is good," "All because of the Kaiser," "Cookery," "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," "Rose of love," "Can't get away from it," and "I should like to be."

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT DUNDEE.

Mr. Harry Burns' pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," made a most auspicious start on Christmas night at the King's. The theme, which is handled by Mr. Henry Curwen in his best style, enables the scenic artist and costumier to revel in a lavish display. The pantomime is played in nine scenes, viz.: Old Cheapside, Fitzwarren's Pantry, Fitzwarren's Shop, Dick's Garret, Highgate Hill, Near London Docks, The Emperor of Morocco's Dining Hall, The Shores of Morocco, and The Emperor's Reception Room, the various sets and cloths being masterpieces of the scene-painter's art.

The cast is remarkably well chosen. Miss Hettie Zillwood is a most successful Dick, her clever acting and charming rendering of her songs all combining to make her an ideal principal boy. Possessed of an excellent singing voice, she scored an early success with "Dear old Michigan," in which she had the picturesque support of the full chorus. The part of principal girl is taken by Miss Beryl Clifford, a vivacious and natural actress, who makes a delightfully sweet and dainty Alice, looking charmingly youthful. Her songs are very prettily rendered, her singing of "When Irish eyes are smiling" being especially admired. She shares the honour with Miss Zillwood (Dick) in several vocal duets, while her terpsichorean accomplishments are also of a high order. Miss Dollie Barrie made a perky and energetic Captain Dreadnought. She earned much applause for her number, "Beautiful baby doll," and the nimble dance with which she supplemented it. Miss Retta Halkett, whose comedy talents are well developed, scored a big hit in the special Scotch part of Maggie Mackenzie. She has a capital song, "Farewell, Isobel," which she sang with rare point and expression, and in her humorous interludes with Idle Jack she did admirable work. Miss Ruth Gray as the Princess of Morocco looked and acted bewitchingly. Miss Mamie Worth played Fairy Bowbell very nicely. She is a cultured vocalist, and sang "The love-light in your eyes" with real charm. The principal fun provider is Mr. Billy Walters, whose Doric-spoken Idle Jack constituted a distinct novelty. Mr. Arthur Holland made an excellent Fitzwarren, and sang "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers" in clever style. Mr. William P. Sheen kept the ball of fun rolling merrily by his humorous portrayal of the cook, Mary Ann. He had a funny ditty, "I do like a nice mince pie." Messrs. Roberts and Melville are a pair of capital comedians, and as Sprit and Sprat were responsible for a deal of laughable business. Mr. F. W. Foster made an imposing Emperor of Morocco, and the Demon Rat had a dramatic representative in Mr. Chris Yorke. Mr. Joe Pauley was most skilfully made up as Dick's faithful feline companion, his antics being a great delight to both old and young alike. Several clever dances were executed by the Twelve Rainbows, and the fine orchestra excelled itself under the direction of Mr. Frank Seddon. Mr. Louis Burns, the general manager of the pantomime, is renewing his old friendships here, and the interests of the company are safe in his hands.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT EASTBOURNE.

On Boxing Day Messrs. Murray King and Clark added another great success to their list of "annuals." The crowded audience at the Devonshire Park Theatre was kept in jovial mood from start to finish, and there were many and frequent signs that the house was delighted with the Christmas fare. The music has been judiciously selected so as to embrace the best comic, sentimental, and patriotic numbers obtainable, and the twelve scenes are quite a delight to the eye.

Miss Norah Dwyer undertakes the part of Dick, and to her falls nothing but praise for a bright, pleasing, attractive performance, in which her tasteful singing is noteworthy. Miss Lettie Lovell is a dainty and delightful Alice, whose pleasing voice is heard to advantage in some pretty numbers. Miss Dorothy Frostick is a graceful and charming Fairy Queen, her splendid dancing is a feature of the pantomime, and her illustrations of "walks across the road" are a very successful item. In Mr. Murray King we have a popular favourite, who can always be relied upon to supply genuine laughter in abundance, and in his clever work as Idle Jack his words and songs are given in the quaint and funny manner which has made his work so effective. George Grogie (the Sussex yokel) is another local favourite, whose comic songs, funny gags and work generally as the Alderman are important factors in the general success. Mr. Jamie Dallas, as "the villain of the deepest dye," Captain von Pott, in a clever performance makes many material contributions to the merriment. An unusually good performance of the Cat is given by Mr. Lennie Domer, whose feline wanderings among the audience give much amusement and delight to the juveniles. Mr. Bert Gunnel's work as the "dame," Gertie Pushoff, is to be highly commended as clean, funny, and effective, while his dancing is individual and clever. Messrs. Fred and Dick Royal are a comical pair as Bo'sun and Mate, and their speciality is much appreciated; while Mr. G. W. Brighten, as the Demon Rat, and Mr. I. O. Will, as Alsoran, do good work. Miss Vine Lyn is a fine and handsome Emperor, Miss Jessie Wayland Carr is a very pleasing Mary, Miss Marie Deane is a capital Drummer Boy, and the Ormes Quartette of Lady Dancers are graceful experts in their art. A "Good Old Harlequinade" follows, and on the opening night showed there are many laughs left in this time-honoured form of entertainment. Mr. Alfred T. Emmerson is responsible for the musical arrangements, Mr. R. Berre for the scenery, and Mr. Jamie Dallas is the producer.

"CINDERELLA" AT HASTINGS.

On Boxing Day Mr. Will Parkin and Mr. Henry L. Esmond presented at the Pier Pavilion "Cinderella," a most attractive and witty production by Mr. Will Parkin. Smart dialogue, the latest songs, and plenty of pretty forms combine to make a complete success. The author has carefully followed the old story, and presents it in nine scenes, admirably painted and designed by Mr. Arnold Berre and Mr. Grahame Browne, preceded by a prologue, in which some of the traditional heroes of pantomime appear.

Cinderella is charmingly played by Miss Bertha Russell. Her singing and dancing are quite first rate, and she has a most captivating style. She gave a sweet rendering of "If I thought you loved me," besides achieving a success in the duet, "Baby doll." This latter number she sings with Miss Irene Millard, who is a most attractive Prince Charming, and sings with taste and ability. Besides the duet referred to, she was successful with "Red, white, and blue," and "Wonderful rose."

Mr. Albert Williams is a clever comedian, and makes a capital Baron Hardup. The Ugly Sisters find two capital exponents in Mr. Billy Wesley and Miss Edith Isabelle. Mr. Wesley's song and patter, "I'm lonely," evoked much laughter. Mr. Percy Mavis simply revels in the part of Meek, the broker's man. His business and dancing with Mr. Montague, who makes a most laughable person of Mild, is highly commendable, and their "Soldier" duet is distinctly funny. Dandini has a handsome representative in Miss Ethel Mavis, and her spirited rendering of "Are we downhearted?" was loudly applauded. Miss Carrie Parrie makes a winsome Dollie and sings well, her rendering of "Angus Macdonald" being first rate; and the Pimple of Mr. Griff Hodson is excellent. His songs and imitations alike are good, particularly "I do like a nice s'mince s'pie." Miss Ida Tyrell is a pretty Fairy Queen and a graceful dancer; the Demon is well played by Mr. James Stewart; and the Old Witch is ably filled by Miss Betty Agar.

In the prologue Mr. G. Dobson enacts Father Time, Miss Ethel Tyson is Dick Whittington, Miss Connie Merson Aladdin, Miss Florrie Whittle doubles the Babes in the Wood, Little Red Riding Hood is undertaken by Miss Phœbe Clarance, and Miss Eva Braithwaite is Robinson Crusoe.

Amongst the varieties which intersperse the pantomime, Mr. Albert Williams and Miss Edith Isabelle introduce a humorous interlude, "Pantomime Tit-Bits"; Mavis and Mavis score with the duet "Rhoda," and their exceedingly clever dancing was accorded one of the encores of the evening; and Trixie's Trivials, some very charming juveniles, proved successful in their speciality dancing. The production is gorgeously dressed, and the handsome chorus well trained. The music by Mr. Sparrow Harris and Mr. Arthur W. Parry is graceful and appropriate, and a word of praise is due to the members of the orchestra.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT HULL.

The Morton management, in conjunction with Mr. Francis Laidler, and by arrangement with Mr. J. F. Elliston, inaugurated the pantomime season on Boxing afternoon and night with a version of "Robinson Crusoe," written by Arthur W. Field. The musical director, Mr. Walter Lupton, has selected the most popular items of the day and taken account not alone of the patriotic numbers, but also the leading sentimental and humorous verses that are making appeal at the moment. The scenery, the most elaborate pieces of which are the Coral Grotto and the King's Palace, are from the brush of Messrs. Spencer and Dodsworth.

The performance at the opening went very easily, and the pruning knife will not be necessary to any large extent. The principals, fourteen in all, are a compact company who work well together. There is one character that stands out prominently for its humour and unconventionality, that of Princess Pearly-Pet, portrayed by Miss Lucy Murray with acceptable spontaneity. Mr. Syd Howard, Billie Crusoe, tickles the ears of his audience with his Yorkshireisms. Mr. Fred Anderson has allotted to him the rôle of Mrs. Crusoe, and does not overlook any of the foibles of the pantomime dame.

The pame part is admirably filled by Miss Alice Wyatt, an experienced artiste possessing all the necessary attributes of a principal boy. Miss Molly McCarthy has a part for which she is eminently suited, and her songs have been nicely selected. Miss Goldie Collins and Miss Edie Wyatt meet all the claims made upon second

boy and girl. The Man Friday of Mr. Walter Scott is commendable. Others in the cast are Mr. Chas. Tolcher, Will Atkins, and Mr. Jack Snow, King of the Cannibals. The knockabouts figuring in the cast are the Bros. Smarte. Miss Madeline Wells is the Fairy Queen, who possesses a well-trained voice, added to which she brings natural gifts in the way of clear enunciation and a voice of pleasing timbre. The Little Sunbeams add to the strength of the pantomime.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT IPSWICH.

The pantomime of "Dick Whittington," produced by Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon for the first time on Boxing Day, is altogether a most excellent performance; there is neither a dull moment nor a weak spot in it from the rise to the fall of the curtain. The libretto, by Mr. Martin Byam, is witty and up-to-date in every particular, and the entire cast are admirably fitted to their parts.

Miss Una Reynol is a sprightly Dick, and is well supported by Mr. A. Cure as the faithful Cat, whose antics create roars of laughter; Miss Gence Jones-Hughes as Bow Belle, the Fairy Guardian of Dick, possesses a fine voice, and her singing was much enjoyed, the same remark applying to Miss Hebe Kneller as Alice Fitzwarren, and Miss Marie Brian as Gwendoline, her companion. Mr. Fred Lawrence as Alderman Fitzwarren (and also stage manager) is an excellent comedian, and Mr. Frank Sheppard as Idle Jack, with Mr. Bert Laurie as Betsy Ann (the Cook), make the fun fast and furious, well seconded by Mr. Arthur Gallimore as Captain Boll, of the "Saucy Sally," and Mr. Ken Gallimore as Ben Doll, the mate of the vessel. Many of the duets of these two couples are excruciatingly funny. Mr. Leonard Edwards is a stately Emperor of Morocco, and his daughter, the Princess Wowski, played by Miss Nora Doone, an established favourite in juvenile parts, had an enthusiastic welcome.

The scenery is excellent, Cheapside in the Olden Time is a picturesque reproduction, and Highgate Hill is quite realistic. In the second part the scene changes to Morocco, opening with a typical Oriental coast scene, but the last, The Palace of the Emperor, with its rich upholstery and the beautiful dresses of the company, form a climax which is rarely equalled in provincial pantomimes. The Four Pensarosa Belles are clever speciality dancers. Mr. Frank Heaton, who also conducts, is responsible for the music, which is well selected and bright.

"CINDERELLA" AT LEEDS.

Mr. Laidler has a reputation for humour in his pantomime productions, and he has left no stone unturned to uphold it by engaging Mr. Fred Kitchen as Peter the Page, in "Cinderella," produced last Wednesday at the Theatre Royal. He succeeded on the opening night in getting roars of laughter from a crowded house. He is well supported by Victor Crawford as the Baron, the Brothers Obo as the Ugly Sisters, and August and September as Brokers' Men. Miss Mabel Medrow makes a fine Prince, with a delightful voice and some real good vocal numbers. Miss Marjorie Laurence as Cinders is ladylike and refined. One of the features of the pantomime is the dancing of Mr. Leslie Barker, who plays Dandini, and Miss Mamie Watson. This talented pair are quite young, and their dancing is little short of marvellous. More will certainly be heard of them. Miss Eileen Desmond makes a big hit with her beautiful vocal numbers; and Mr. Dick Wilson, a local baritone, sings a stirring patriotic song with great vim and success. The youngsters, always a great feature of the Royal annuals, are as clever and well trained as ever, and are always encored. The scenery, which is very artistic, is more elaborate than in any previous pantomime, and every possible credit is due to the scenic artist for a fine production.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT LEEDS.

Mr. John Hart's twentieth pantomime at the Leeds Grand was produced on Thursday night with the greatest possible success. The book is by Mr. J. J. Hewson, and the music is selected and composed by Mr. Jaxon, the resident musical-director, with numbers added by Gordon Hart and G. W. Chapman. The ballets, for which the Grand is noted, are arranged by Miss Elsie Parker, and the whole is produced by Mr. Walter Reynold. The spectacular traditions of the theatre are worthily upheld, and the well-known scenic artists, Messrs. R. C. Oldham and D. G. Hall, are in their happiest mood. Special mention should be made of The Submerged City, by Mr. Oldham, and The Briny, Shiny Sea, by Mr. Hall. The principal ballets are "The Ballet of Birds" and "The Ballet of Allies," both of which are effectively presented. Miss Marie Blanche gives an artistic rendering of Crusoe, acting, singing, and dancing delightfully. Miss Blanche is an ideal boy. Miss Irene Dillon, "the big, little girl," is a piquant Polly Hopkins. Other ladies who give good support are Misses Monica Ellestree, Winnie Haytor, Sybil Hook, and Constance Cayley. The comedians are headed by Mr. Jay Laurier as Tommy Crusoe. His "S'mince s'pie" and "Sister Susie" songs are both sure winners, and he is already an established favourite. Mr. Pip Powell has some original ideas as the Dame; and Mr. George Ali proves to be one of the "top dogs" in animal impersonators as Bulldog Buster. Other parts are strongly played by Messrs. Cecil Rutland and Stanley Damerell as a pair of tars; Mr. Chas. Wade as the Demon King; Mr. Frank Haytor as Man Friday; Mr. C. M. York as the Cannibal King; and Mr. Tom Redmond as Peter Hopkins. Everything points to a long and successful run.

"OLD KING COLE" AT LIVERPOOL.

Mr. F. W. Wyndham, with his "Old King Cole" pantomime, at the Liverpool Royal Court Theatre, has unquestionably struck oil. The particular title was used in the Mersey city for a Christmas annual so many years ago that even the oldest inhabitant has only a hazy idea of the date, and although in the present instance the story of the merry Bohemian monarch does not seem of much consequence, it serves the purpose of introducing a bushelful of laughter. At both performances on Saturday people were turned away, but those who managed to squeeze themselves in would not regret having had to stand for over three hours. There was nothing but laughter throughout, and this was not at all surprising considering the fine parts and opportunities given to John Humphreys, Ralph Roberts (Dame), Freddie Dunn (Caddie), and the Bros. Egbert. The last-named were responsible for many aching sides, and it was agreed on all hands that the two popular comedians never were so diverting.

Then all the song gems published by Messrs. Feldman, of London, were introduced very appropriately, and went with a rare swing; the scenery reflected every credit upon Messrs. T. F. Dunn, Stanley Shuter, and T. Holmes, and the "book" came from the able pens of J. Hickory Wood and J. James Hewson. In addition to this worthy combination of talent must be mentioned the good stage-management of Mr. Philip F. Howley, who was responsible for an exceedingly smooth first production, and Mr. Jullien H. Wilson, the leader of the theatre orchestra, who not only partly arranged and composed the music, but obtained some fine effects from his company of instrumentalists. It is necessary to mention that the drumes were of a particularly lovely description, and the chorus pretty and well trained.

As the principal boy Miss Clara Beck found immense favour, and secured several encores for her songs. Full of animation, and wearing some gorgeous costumes, the talented artiste worked hard in helping to achieve success for the production. In an early scene she gave "A little cosy corner," with chorus, followed by "Tipperary," which was joined in by the audience, "Irish, and proud of it, too," assisted by a couple of youthful artistes, "They sang God save the King," which met with general applause, "Here we are again," with chorus, and "I'll make you want me," which caused much laughter. Another artiste whose vocalism was worthily appreciated was Miss May Tomlinson, the principal girl. In one scene a large sweet-box was introduced, enclosing a little mite, who, in "La poupee" fashion, stepped forth and replied to her "Beautiful baby doll" song, an incident which was greeted with rounds of applause; and later Miss Tomlinson aroused enthusiasm with her delightful rendering of "When Irish eyes are smiling," a song which gripped. Mr. Ralph Roberts was exceedingly droll as the Dame, and his constant appearance knitting a red-coloured muffler was one of the funny features of the evening. He very successfully gave "Snice, smince spie." Good support also came from Miss Queenie Preston (King's valet), Miss Millicent Vernon (Princess's maid), Ian Mackay (Abdul), Freddy Dunn (a most humorous caddie), Ethel Love (Dick), and Minnie Marshall (May). Specialities were introduced by the Eight Merry Macs and the Eight Sunshines, the latter having a pretty song and dance, "My little cottage."

Mr. John Humphreys was in splendid form, and exhibited to the full his powers as a genuine comedian. Early in the pantomime he started the laughter with his gout troubles, and had endless patter, which was rattled off at high speed. His experience on the golf links with the caddie proved another capital piece of fooling, and here he contributed a golf ditty, and with the Dame, had a topical song, "It's official." As mentioned before, the Bros. Egbert were never so diverting. Their attempts to paper a house and adventures in the cabin of a ship rolling at sea will long be remembered. Then their street sweeping before Mr. Holmes's fine set showing St. George's Hall, Liverpool, with the running platform, and their diversions at golf also proved delightful tit-bits of fun.

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT LIVERPOOL.

The annual at the Liverpool Shakespeare will certainly maintain the traditions of that popular place, for the enterprising Mr. W. W. Kelly has provided a pantomime which will appeal to young and old, especially the former. "Red Riding Hood" has been arranged by Mr. John Tiller, the music is by Mr. E. W. Eyre, and the beautiful scenery by W. Finch Leicester, McLennan, and Javier Latore. The whole production is bright and brisk, full of movement, and has several novelties which will meet with favour. All the best and latest songs are introduced effectively, and there are lots of new gags and tricks.

The old nursery story is certainly told in almost the old way, but so arranged as to afford the comedians opportunities for showing their ability. In the second scene (Mother Hood's shop) a deal of fun was caused by Trotters (Mr. William Spray), Mother Hood (John E. Conan), and Doctor Dignum (Mr. Coningsby Brierley), while the following picture, depicting the Forest Range Farm, was especially neat. Here Tiller's well-trained girls provide twenty minutes' capital amusement, a feature being the musical dance of a dozen youngsters with harmonious bells, their efforts being loudly applauded. The Dame also introduced an amusing ditty on the various forms of kissing, which caused much laughter.

That most accomplished principal boy, Miss Cressie Leonard, who had a rapturous reception, sang "We're Irish, and proud of it, too," being accompanied by a chorus of little girls. Miss Leonard, from whom was demanded an encoure, also gave an exhibition of her remarkably graceful dancing. Afterwards she aroused enthusiasm with her rendering of "They sang God save the King," a smart fife and drum band of Tiller's girls joining in, along with representatives of the Allies, "Tipperary" (accompanied by a comical procession of street urchins, who caused great laughter), and "Where are the boys to-night?" a patriotic number. Miss Leonard undoubtedly achieved a big success. Miss Jane Ayr made an exceedingly sweet Red Riding Hood, and, although she had little to do, she looked the part of the quiet, simple, confiding child. Mr. Spray helped largely with the fun, among his best being Feldman's song, "Snice smince spie," which went very well. He was particularly lively, and made things run quickly. Mr. Alec Floyd, dressed in khaki, earned favour for his well-rendered tenor song, "England, gallant England." The "Tommy Tucker" of Miss Liane Klaw deserved praise, and that accomplished artiste sang in capital style "The tango girl," which was followed by a well executed exhibition of the tango dance. Mr. John E. Conan's Dame proved a funny affair throughout, and when he and Messrs. Alec Foli and Will Amstel, a merry couple of comedians, get into swing there will be a lot of food for laughter provided. Big things are also expected from Mr. Coningsby Brierley, who was prominent as the amusing doctor. Mention should be made of Miss Norah Gray as Margery Daw, Mr. Eddie Jaye (the wolf), and Miss Dolly Mosley (the fairy).

Among the principal scenes were those of the Enchanted Wood (summer and winter), the Blue Lagoon, and the finale, which showed a charming exterior of the Prince's Palace in white and gold. Specialities were introduced by Mewse and Singer (dancers), the Three Mayos (smart comedy skaters), the Twelve Military Maids, and "The Mites."

On Boxing Day there were crowded and delighted audiences.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT MANCHESTER.

Mr. John Hart is to be congratulated on the all-round excellent show he has again provided at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. "Goody Two Shoes," produced on Wednesday last, is undoubtedly one of the best pantomimes Manchester has yet seen. Mr. R. C. Oldham has written a most entertaining fairy story, which is followed with interest from start to finish. The dialogue and lyrics are smart, and the music—very pretty and tuneful—has been arranged, selected, and composed by Messrs. C. W. Chambers (the musical director), Gordon Hart, and Henri Jaxon. The scenery is all very effective, being painted by those past-masters, Messrs. R. C. Oldham and D. G. Hall. Especially beautiful are the set scenes, the Village of Blossomville, Goody's Reception, the D'Uyou Café, the Palace Grounds, and Toyland, the latter perhaps being the most striking scene in the whole pantomime. Mme. Phillipini, who is responsible for this, along with the other charming ballets, groupings, and processions, deserved the unstinted applause this wonderful scene called forth. The costumes are all dreams of loveliness, and have been specially designed by Comelli, and made by Mrs. Whelan, Miss Whelan, Mrs. Henley, and assistants.

Mr. Hart has selected his company with his usual keen discrimination. A more charming Goody than Miss Daisy Dormer cannot be conceived, her singing and dancing being always delightful. Her songs, "Kiss me good-bye," "My little soldier boy" (with a promising juvenile assistant), "Sammy, come over here," "You're here, I'm there" (with clever dance), and "Irish eyes," are all artistically rendered. As principal boy, Miss Ella Retford plays with a roguish air, and an ease which is positively bewitching. She has several capital songs, and makes a hit with "Sister Susie," "I love the ladies" (with a smart and tricky dance), and "Irish, and proud of it, too"; whilst the duet, "Just we two and the moon," with Goody is charmingly done.

Mr. Horace Mills is, perhaps, the best pantomime "dame" of recent years. He undoubtedly looks the part, and as the mother of Goody is particularly funny. It is a scream to see him and hear him singing "Here we are! here we are again," and his burlesque harmony duet, "Love me," with Clarence is rich. Most of the fun is provided by Mr. Mills and that clever young artiste, Mr. Lupino Lane, as Clarence. Their business of tuning a piano with a mallet, pick, and spade, and papering a room and whitewashing a ceiling is one long laugh. Lupino Lane's acrobatic dancing is wonderful, and his clever movements are added to his songs, "Snice smince pie" and "I followed her." He and Goody have a pretty number, "Snuggle up closer, do," to which is added a most delightful dance. Mr. Sam Walsh is capital as the Duke of Improvidentia, and helps with the fun. His song, "Where are the lads of the village," with chorus of Boy Scouts, is sung in a highly effective manner, and he also does well with "Are we all here? Yes!" Miss Dorothy Moulton, as Fairy Lightheart, has a good voice, and she renders well "Roses, roses" and "The sunshine of your smile." As Ronnie (the Mayor's son), Miss Belle Roselle is heard to advantage in "I am waiting just to tell you," a sweet-voiced boy in the stalls adding effect to the song; and, as Ronnie's sweetheart, Zoe, Miss Marjory Carpenter is responsible for some very graceful dancing. Mr. John Kelton sings and acts well as the Demon Discontent; whilst Mr. Laurence Caird (Zoraster, the Wizard), Mr. C. Roper Lane as the Mayor of Blossomville, and Miss Vera Walsh as the Duchess of Improvidentia, add to the general enjoyment. The augmented orchestra is under the able baton of Mr. C. W. Chambers, and the whole pantomime is produced under the stage direction of Mr. A. E. Dodson and the personal supervision of Mr. John Hart.

"JACK AND JILL" AT MANCHESTER.

Mr. John Tiller's version of the favourite pantomime story of "Jack and Jill," which was produced at the Ardwick Green Empire on Monday, December 21, is constructed on lucid and entertaining lines, well calculated to please young and old. It is told in seven brilliant scenes, and it has also the specially attractive chorus, ballet, and teams of dancers—a galaxy of youth and beauty—which are a recognised asset of a Tiller production. With such accessories on the spectacular side, the story of Jack and Jill's adventure up the hill, and the discovery of the stolen crown at the bottom of the well, followed by the usual happy sequel for the royal children and the Prince and Princess, is developed by a remarkably strong cast. Two clever and pretty children, Miss May Gannon and Miss May Thompson, play Jack and Jill respectively, forming a very pleasant central feature of the action, immediately round which is woven the theme of Prince Fearnought's search for a wife (with its attendant humours through the agency of his page Ginger), and its natural gravitation toward the beautiful Princess.

Miss Nan Chester, neat, handsome, and accomplished, infuses quite the right dash into her embodiment of the Prince, showing excellent adaptability to each situation as it comes along; while as the Princess Bountiful Miss Jessie Gerrard has every essential qualification of cleverness and refinement, not the least important being the possession of a very good singing voice. On the fringe of the theme, the affairs of Fantine, the Princess's maid, and Trim, the Court factotum, are smartly presented by Miss Evelyn Grace and Miss May Sharples; while the baleful influence of Carl, the wicked hunchback, who has stolen the crown, and would have the Princess for himself, is shown with some histrionic power by Mr. Jack Vert; and a smooth piece of acting as the Prince Regent is added by Mr. William Hamer.

Comedy is provided in abundance, the arch-comedian being no less a popular personage than Mr. George Formby, who is, of course, the star feature of the cast. Mr. Formby showed unmistakable signs of his recent indisposition at the opening performance, but, nevertheless, the familiar humour was powerfully there. He is a comedian who can get a roar out of what might sound commonplace from another, and with the material he has to work in as John Willie, the messenger boy (who takes the whole of the action to complete a single errand), added to a ready aptitude for impromptu, it is safe to say that his personality alone would ensure the success of the production. In addition to this prime laughter-maker, however, there is Mr. Tom Gott as Dame Durden, the village schoolmistress, who to certain iniquities in respect of the story adds many good-humoured eccentricities of the time-honoured sort, and whose fine, clear voice is worthy of note. Much praise is due also to Mr. Jimmie Pullin, who gets every ounce out of his possibilities as Ginger, the page, and whose resourcefulness must surely contribute still more to the success as the development of the show goes on. Mr. Billy Rex and Mr. Barney Dixon, as Private Baff and Corporal Biff, ably complete the list of comedians. Of specialities, the dancing of the Merry Mites is virile and charming, and the elaborate Scottish ballet, The Gathering of the Clans, is finely conceived and executed. There is original music by Herman Finck, and a free sprinkling of popular numbers from the leading publishers. The pantomime remains a month at the Ardwick Empire.

"CINDERELLA" AT MIDDLESBROUGH.

Mr. J. Charles Imeson launched his annual Christmas pantomime, "Cinderella," on Boxing Day before a crowded, enthusiastic audience, that packed the spacious auditorium from floor to ceiling. The libretto is by Mr. Joseph L. Barry, and is written in that gentleman's best style. The overture and incidental music has been composed and arranged by Mr. Herbert Barnes, and the pantomime has been produced by Mr. Thomas Barry, who is deserving of the highest praise for the excellence of his work. The plot is unfolded in ten scenes, commencing with a beautiful woodland glade, and terminating with the Gardens of the Prince's Palace. The dresses are exceedingly pretty, and effective both in design and colour, and the properties and staging generally are on a most elaborate scale. Miss Myra Hammon, an Australian artiste of repute, infuses any amount of dash into the rôle of Prince Perfect. She has a prepossessing stage presence, a clear, flexible soprano voice of exquisite quality, and renders her songs in capital style, "Are we downhearted?" and "Winter time," with novel lantern effects, being applauded to the echo. Miss Peggy Walsh makes a handsome and clever Dandini, and secures undeniable recalls for her finely rendered songs, "When Irish eyes are smiling" and "Girls I have met." Miss Betty Green makes a sweetly sympathetic and dainty Cinderella, and sings and dances admirably. Mr. Hal Berte is intensely funny as Pimples, the Baron's page, and his songs and quaint dances create uproarious merriment. Baron Shiftalot has an exceedingly comical and hard-working exponent in Mr. Hylton Warde, his song, "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," being one of the hits of the production. The Three Sisters Rosslyn render an excellent account of themselves in songs, duets, and trios; and Melt and Bray as the Ugly Sisters are indefatigable in their efforts to please. The Brothers Costello, as the Broker's Men, are chiefly noticeable for clever acrobatic displays; and the minor rôles are all well portrayed. The orchestra and chorus, under the skilful direction of Mr. William Hudson, render an excellent account of themselves. Mr. Fred G. Kay is the painstaking stage-manager, and the front of the house is under the direction of Mr. Thomas Barry.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT NEW BRIGHTON.

When Mr. Albert Douglass, of the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, promised a pantomime off his own bat, it was generally expected that something really good was in store, for the standard of the Winter Gardens is high, but possibly few imagined we were to be given such a gorgeous and entertaining production as was witnessed by large and delighted audiences on Boxing Day. The pantomime is a feast of colour, humour and refinement, went with a swing from beginning to end, and was received with such enthusiasm as is seldom heard. The greatest credit is due to Mr. R. H. Douglass, who is not only part author, but produced the show with remarkable skill. Scenery, costumes and accessories are beautiful, and all the effects are charming.

The company work splendidly together. That favourite, Mr. W. J. Churchill, is a clever and sprightly Eliza, his jokes and business being admirable, whilst his make-up is clean and effective. As Dick Miss May Garstang scores a pronounced success; she has a charming personality, speaks clearly, and acts and sings in most delightful style. Mr. Will Ambro makes a quaint Idle Jack, full of energy and resource, whilst his singing and dancing gain enthusiastic applause. Alice is impersonated by Miss Gay Silvani, who looks quite a picture in her various costumes, acting and singing all through in an effective manner. The Captain and Mate are undertaken by two good comedians, Messrs. Nash and Noel, who work hard and cause much laughter. A distinct hit is made by a charming child, Little Lucie Linda, whose graceful toe dancing brings down the house. Fitzwarren becomes an important character in the hands of Mr. Ian Fleming, who proves himself an actor of exceptional ability. Mr. B. Burnell is an agile Cat. Others calling for special mention are the Yama Sextette of Male Vocalists and Dancers and Miss Lottie Stone's Troupe of Lady Dancers, Miss Elsie May, a pretty young actress, Miss Ruby Leyton, Mr. James Stratton, and Mr. Couth Griffiths. Mr. Sidney Burt is an able stage manager.

"BOY BLUE" AT NOTTINGHAM.

On Christmas Eve the Theatre Royal presented a gay and festive appearance, boxes, stalls, circles and gallery being filled with a crowd of expectant sightseers eager to enjoy and applaud everything offered for their delectation. The traditions of the house for something good were amply fulfilled by Messrs. Howard and Wyndham in their selection and presentation of "Boy Blue." The pantomime is abundantly rich in song, dance, and merriment, which, combined with brightness, beauty, and exquisite dressing, made as enticing an evening's entertainment as could be desired. The "Book," written by Mr. James Hewson, is a merry medley of incidents that make for general and spontaneous amusement. The musical numbers are shared by Mr. Jullien H. Wilson and Mr. John Armstrong, the musical-director of the theatre, their combined skill evolving some delightful lilting airs, as well as music of a more ambitious nature. Messrs. Stafford Hall and Stanley Shuter are responsible for the cleverly painted sets, consisting of eleven scenes. Special mention should be made of the village of Honeybloom, a pretty picture, replete with rustic detail; the market-place, a well-executed and realistic set; the Palace Gardens, a feast for the eye with its wealth of colour; and the Emporium, supplying an opportunity for a prolific display of dress in the periods ranging from early Victorian to the present day. The mechanical and electrical effects, by Mr. A. E. Bailey and Mr. O. Marson, are excellent, and add much to the success. The costumes, by Alias and Miss Hale, are pleasing in their colour scheme and picturesque in design.

Miss Josie Delaine is delightfully captivating in the name part, singing with naïve effect and dancing in the most sprightly manner. Her rendition of "Tipperary" is full of animation, and she also scores heavily in "Everybody loves my girl," "They sang God save the King," and "I'm mad till daylight comes round." Miss Lennie Hill makes a piquant and attractive Miss Muffet, singing and acting with charming vivacity. In the rendering of "When Irish eyes are smiling" she is particularly effective, and her impression of a French comedienne gains warm recognition. No better portrayer of Simple Simon could have been arranged than Mr. Jack Lane, who, exploiting a fine Yorkshire dialect, and with a perpetual smile, creates an atmosphere of high jollity at each entrance. He is a clever trick pianist, and his chorus song, "Here we are again," will be a feature during the run. Mr. Frank Dunlop plays Queen Naganiggle with an unctuous humour that is quite irresistible, and his capital song, "It's a dream," has the addition of some excellent local allusions. Miss Elsie Norris, the Fairy Firefly, possesses a delightful soprano voice, and sings in fine style and taste "The sunshine of your smile" and "Somewhere a voice is calling." She trips blithely about while defeating the machinations of the demon spider, a part which Mr. Stanley Wilson makes sufficiently fearsome and effective. Mr. Bobby Dillon contributes a large slice of fun as Randolph the Rambler. His song, "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," is a veritable terror for tongue twisting. Miss Minnie Fisher is a pleasing and vivacious Tommy Green; Miss Dorothy Sainclair makes a sweet and dainty Bo-Peep, while Miss Joan Grey, as Margery Daw, is thoroughly energetic and full of mischief. The village nut has an able exponent in Mr. Harry Downard. As knockabouts the Bros. Shanks are a decided success. Mr. Stanley Liston (scout master) and Mr. Robert Peel (constable) have a quiet drollery of their own. The Murattes receive generous applause for their finely executed acrobatic dances, and the Eight Merry Macks dance ably and gracefully. The production is under the supervision of Mr. Geo. T. Minshull, who is splendidly seconded by the energetic stage-manager, Mr. Jackson Hayes. The ever-courteous acting-manager of the theatre, Mr. Howard Finney, deservedly earns the thanks of all before and behind the curtain.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT OXFORD.

On Boxing Day, Mr. Geo. Brydon Phillips produced the pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," before crowded houses. This year's book is by Harry Zietz, and the music by Mark Cheesnay. The songs and music possess the necessary amount of swing and "go." In the title-rôle Maisie Ellinger is attractive and graceful. Amongst her songs, "Are we all here? Yes!" is a favourite, and catches on. The Mrs. Crusoe of Jack Cromo is a considerable factor in the success of the production. Jack Cromo can be humorous without being vulgar, and his travesties of the fashions are very clever; his song, "I shall love you still," wins great applause. Mr. Tom Fancourt is a breezy Will Atkins, and he has a good duet, "The simple life," with Mrs. Crusoe. Capt. Pepper and Lieut. Mustard (old salts) are in the capable hands of Cardiff and Taylor. Miss Meg Hamilton is good as Polly Hopkins. The specialities include the Four Nippers, clever dancers; the Mozelles; Cardiff and Taylor; Little Marina, who gives an "impression" of Anna Pavlova's "Dying Swan." Harry Zietz, who is responsible for the stage direction, gives a realistic portrayal of the Man Friday, and sings "Nice mince pie" with effect. The acrobatic feats of the monkey, Pongo, are smartly performed by Rozel. The scenery, representing Crusoe's Hut, the Island, and the Palace, is admirable. The entire pantomime is produced under the direction of Mr. Geo. Brydon Phillips.

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD" AT PORTSMOUTH.

"The Babes in the Wood," lines and lyrics by Arthur Stanley, the prologue, epilogue, and the fairy lines written by Hugh Mytton, and produced on Boxing Day, is Mr. Peter Davey's first pantomime since he has been the guiding hand of the Portsmouth Theatres, Ltd., and it is pleasant to be able to chronicle a success at his initial effort. The scenic artists have been given full scope for the display of their talents, with the result that some very beautiful stage pictures were displayed. Those particularly worthy of note were "The Mill on the Dee," "The Depths of the Wood," and "Titania's Bower." The story is simply treated, the prologue dealing with two children who call at Santa Claus' house to ask for a real old-fashioned pantomime, then the play itself of the Babes and the Fairy Epilogue.

Miss Hilda Stuart appears as Colin, and creates a favourable impression as a smart and lively principal boy. Her song, "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers," was a tongue-twister, which caused considerable amusement. Miss Mabel Harley is a very dainty and graceful Rosabelle. She was heard to advantage in her number, "Charity Browne," and in duet with Colin, "My dreamland queen," a song with a waltz refrain of a haunting cadence, and of which more will be heard. This number has been composed by Mr. Chas. H. Peters, the musical director of the theatre, who, parenthically, has been responsible for the musical production, and who may be complimented on the excellence of his work.

As Dame Durden, Mr. Johnny Schofield has ample scope for his talent of comedy, of which he makes excellent use, as also does Mr. Edward Kipling, as the Baron Cœur de Custard. Miss Jeannette Sherwin was selected to play Titania, by reason of her fine elocutionary powers, and has some eloquent lines to deliver. The part of the elfish Puck is played by Miss Alma D'Anguier, a talented child, graceful both as dancer and actress, and gifted with rare sense of voice modulation. Miss Dulcie Delmar as Squire Chivy and Miss Ethel George as Phyllis make a very sprightly couple, and both sing and dance in pleasing manner.

Messrs. Bert Ronald and Alfred Harlin, the villains, are responsible for a deal of merriment. They also play the Clown and Pantaloon in the Harlequinade, which is introduced in novel manner in the middle of the performance, as an entertainment to the Baron's assembled guests. The parts of the Babes are very well played by Miss René Mowbray and Miss Jennie Hylton. Mr. Harry Zetter appears as Simon, and his eccentric dancing and comedy is very clever.

In smaller parts Miss Dorothy Alma appears as Rover; Mr. Wilfred Herbert, Santa Claus; Mr. Max Carlo, the Village Smith; Mr. Sidney Webb, the Beadle; and Mr. Jas. Power, the Cabman. Mr. Hilton St. Just sings well as the Miller. The chorus has been carefully trained, and the dresses and costumes are in excellent taste. Madame Walker's troupe of juveniles appear in several numbers, and evince many signs of careful tuition, their dancing being quite pretty and graceful. The stage management has been in the hands of Mr. Charles Clarke, who, with Mr. Peter Davey, may be complimented on the general excellence of the production so successfully presented.

"CINDERELLA" AT READING.

The pantomime of "Cinderella" was produced at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, on Boxing Day under the able direction of Mr. Geo. Brydon Phillips, who has devoted much care and attention to its supervision. An exceptionally strong company has been engaged, headed by Miss Eva George, who is a very dainty and pleasing Cinderella, and Miss Gwaladys Soman, who makes Prince Florizel a very fascinating principal boy. Miss Millie Jilson is a dashing Dandini, and Miss Kathleen Gower a charming fairy godmother. A strong company of comedians includes Mr. George James, who is exceedingly droll as Baron Lackland, Mr. C. Young Fixott and Mr. Wal Lesby, who are most diverting as the ugly sisters, Mr. A. G. Spry as Whiffles, the Baron's retainer, and Mr. Joseph Freeman as the flunky. Messrs. Sam and Sid Sheverosky create roars of laughter as a very comical and agile pair of broker's men, Bill and Ginger. Miss Ethel Hansen is an excellent Princess Daphne, and Miss Beatrice Dudley is attractive as the Marquis of Crouch End. The Eight Model Maids are a clever troupe of dancers, and these are supported by a full London chorus. The panto. is finely mounted, the scenery and costumes being very effective. The music is arranged and the orchestra under the direction of Mr. Leonard Day. Mr. Sam Sheverosky is stage-manager.

"CINDERELLA" AT HIPPODROME, SHEFFIELD.

King Pantomime rules here in the attractive guise of "Cinderella," presented in a magnificent style by the great Sheffield favourite, Miss Florrie Forde. Miss Forde looked a truly regal pantomime prince in her resplendent series of becoming costumes, and she received a perfect ovation on the opening night. Her catchy songs were enthusiastically applauded, and a prosperous tour of "Cinderella" is a "dead cert." Miss Maud de Vellen sings well as the Fairy Queen. Miss Flora Carlton makes a great hit nightly by her delightful personality in the interpolated character of the Princess. Miss Mollie Maguire is a pretty and charming representative of the children's ideal heroine, Cinderella, and she sang, acted and danced in a pleasing manner. The comedy element is first rate, and includes Mr. Gilbert Payne, who made a very humorous Pickles, and his droll patter caused hearty laughter. The Ugly Sisters were very funny as represented by Messrs. Arthur Stratton and Fred Fulton. Mr. Frank Blythe caused great merriment as the impecunious Baron. The Femans (who made a big hit at the Alexandra Theatre last season) repeat their spirited performance as the funny attendants, Flip and Flop, and their laughable speciality act, "The Firemen," is again a valuable asset. Miss Billie Burford makes a dashing and attractive representative of Dandini, and a large and well-trained chorus and ballet deserve hearty commendation. The dresses, scenery, properties, and electric effects are well displayed on the spacious Hippodrome stage, and the entire production is first class.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

King Pantomime is as firmly seated upon his throne as ever this year, a circumstance most reassuring in these times of depression. All over the kingdom he is flourishing, and those theatres in London which have plumed their faith to pantomime seem to have no cause for regret. Our double number this week contains the portraits of the principals who are making merry and merriment in the various productions throughout the country, and including, as usual, many of the best known variety artistes.

The King and Queen will attend the matinée which has been arranged to take place at Covent Garden on Tuesday, Feb. 2, in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. The play chosen for the occasion is "The School for Scandal," and the cast will consist of the most prominent members of the profession now in England.

In a letter to Mr. Dion Boucicault, who is arranging the details of the performance, signifying the intention of their Majesties to be present, Sir F. Ponsonby writes: "The dramatic profession enjoys a just public regard from the invariable readiness and generosity with which, in times of peace, it places its services at the disposal of every good cause of national charity, and their Majesties feel that in this time of distress an obligation rests on the public to alleviate in some measure the anxiety which the war entails on the profession, more especially through its humbler ranks." Enclosed were cheques of £100 from the King, and £50 from the Queen towards the fund.

Lady Tree and her daughter Felicity are staying at Sir Ernest Cassel's Paris house, which he has lent them. As we stated in this column some weeks ago, Miss Felicity has taken up Red Cross nursing seriously, and after training at the Hôtel Majestic Hospital she will go to another base hospital.

Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson has had a felicitous Christmas gift in the shape of a daughter. The distinguished actor received the cablegram announcing the happy event at San Francisco on Boxing Day.

Miss Ellaline Terriss is due back in London to-day (Wednesday) from the trenches, and will reappear to-morrow afternoon and evening as Elphin Haye in "The Earl and the Girl" at the Lyric Theatre. Mr. Bannister Howard intends to continue the matinées until further notice. Some of our contemporaries made a mistake in suggesting that Miss Terriss did not appear on Boxing afternoon and evening at the Lyric. She did so, and with enormous success. Miss Dorothy Monkman only took her part during her absence at the front.

Miss Terriss's visit to the Continent, to carry a message from home to the soldiers, is not the only beneficent act which she has performed this Christmas. At Guy's Hospital some 400 garments, such as shirts, petticoats, and other warm clothes, made by friends of Miss Terriss, were distributed to the children patients, in addition to which the popular actress herself gave away 350 toys to the youngsters.

In another column will be found the balance-sheet of the recent "Drake" season at His Majesty's, the profits of which were devoted to charity. The receipts of the season amounted to £18,558 4s. 6d., and the expenses to £16 523 12s. 3d., leaving a net profit of £2,034 12s. 3d. This balance was obtained despite the fact that the prices of admission were greatly reduced, and the result is infinitely creditable to Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Louis Parker, and the company generally.

Drama on the twice-nightly plan has been essayed with more or less success at the suburban and provincial theatres; now it is to be tried at a West End house—no less important a theatre than the Garrick, where, during Mr. Arthur Bourchier's absence on tour with "The Double Mystery," a play called "A Daughter of England" will be performed twice each evening and at two matinées a week. During this difficult war period for theatres the question of popular prices has come to the front, and while artistes, musicians, authors, and staff have fallen into line with the new regime, it is hoped that, by the twice-nightly system, the problem of cheaper prices will be solved.

The advantages of this system at the present moment are obvious. With the darkened streets and curtailed 'bus services there are many playgoers—especially among the suburban patrons—who are anxious to return to their homes as early in the evening as possible, while for those who have no such restrictions the second house begins at a more convenient hour.

The author of "A Daughter of England," Dr. E. V. Miller, is a French surgeon, now serving at the front, and the adaptation has been made from his work by Messrs. Percy Barrow and Jose G. Levy. It is a spy play, with its first two acts laid in Germany. Act 3 is laid in Alsace, where the French and German sentries face each other. The last scene is at Portsmouth, on the night of the declaration of war.

So great has been the success of "Le Mariage de Mlle. Beulemans" at the Criterion that Messrs. J. F. Fonson and B. Wicheler's comedy will be kept running over the holidays. Towards the end of next week another piece by the same authors, entitled "La Demoiselle de Magasin," will be produced for the first time in England with the original Paris and Brussels cast, including Mons. Libeau and Melle Dieudonne.

The Peter Pan Cup, which Sir J. M. Barrie has presented as first prize to the Serpentine Swimming Club for the past eleven years, was competed for on Christmas morning in the lake at Hyde Park. Twenty-six competed, and a very close and interesting race resulted. The winner was W. E. P. Bayly, who had 30 seconds start.

A happy afternoon was spent by over 800 wounded soldiers, many of them Belgians, from 36 different hospitals in London, who attended the dress rehearsal of "The Sleeping Beauty Beautified" at Drury Lane on Thursday afternoon. They were conveyed to the theatre by the British Red Cross Society in ambulances, private cars, and motor-'buses. The men were allowed to smoke, and were served with refreshments.

Madame Yavorska, who has just finished a successful four months' tour with Tolstoy's play, "Anna Karenina," has addressed numerous important recruiting meetings, and has also been instrumental in collecting a large sum (approaching £800) for the benefit of Russians in England in distress through the war. She is now organising a relief fund for Poland.

[The Era" has a larger circulation than that of any other theatrical or variety journal published in the United Kingdom.]

The Martin-Harvey company start their spring tour on Jan. 18. A substantial amount was collected one way and another for various charitable funds, including "The Era" War Distress Fund; and Mr. Frank B. O'Neill, the business manager, informs us that it is the intention to continue the good work in the coming year.

Mr. Martin Harvey has received an interesting letter from three recruits, who have joined the A Company of the Cardiff City Battalion of the Welsh Regiment, as the result of witnessing "The Breed of the Treshams," at Cardiff. This play has been a very good recruiting agent through Mr. Martin Harvey's autumn tour, and he has received quite a large number of letters to the same effect as the above.

A revue by Sir James Barrie is to be produced at the Duke of York's by Mr. Charles Frohman. The piece, which, by the way, is the one originally intended for the Palace, will be elaborately mounted and cast.

Having set one of the most remarkable productions on the stage well on the road to success at the Kingsway, Mr. Granville Barker has gone to the United States with the object, it is said, of conferring with the leaders of the American Stage Society regarding the production of a series of plays this season. Mr. Barker's company, it is also stated, will include Miss Lillah McCarthy and Mr. Henry Ainley.

The sub-committee of the Touring Managers' Association having pointed out to the Railway Department of the Board of Trade, through the kind offices of Mr. Frederick Whelen, the great hardship, particularly to small touring managers, of the enforcement of payment for trucks, it has great pleasure in stating that it has now been arranged that during the period of Government control of the railways in Great Britain one truck of scenery, accompanied by parties of from ten to thirty-three adult passengers, will be conveyed free.

"Fuzzy" is about the most wonderful cat which has yet been seen upon the stage. Miss Pauline Prim, who impersonates this delightful animal, is the first woman who has taken "animal parts," and her success in Mr. Bannister Howard's "Cinderella" pantomime at the Aldwych Theatre was instantaneous. At the interval of each performance "Fuzzy" goes round the theatre with a large box on her back collecting for the Belgian Fund. At the opening performance on Saturday the children especially were greatly pleased at giving their little contributions.

In five minutes the box was filled to overflowing with coppers, and "Fuzzy's" back was nearly broken. The result was a fresh box had to be obtained, and no less than £4 15s. was collected. As "pussy" was only able to get through the pit, gallery and boxes this was very satisfactory. Had she been able to visit the disappointed people in circle and balcony the amount would have been much larger.

The military drama, "Three Little Britons," in four acts and twelve scenes, written by A. Rosebery, with music composed by H. Sullivan Brooke, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Monday next. The company includes Messrs. Arthur Elwyn, Edmund Sydney, James Wilton, and F. Roy Jackson, Misses Olive Warne, Madge Soutter, Gertie Gascoyne, and the Dapper Dandy Girls. Mr. Francis B. Oliver will be manager.

Evidence that children on the stage save a considerable portion of the money earned by the exercise of their talents was supplied at Bow-street on Thursday, when licences were granted for a number of juveniles to take part in pantomimes. Mr. Graham Campbell inquired carefully into each case, and expressed the hope that a part of the children's salaries was put by for a rainy day.

His worship was informed that the parents of most of the children were in good positions, and the children themselves were well educated and cared for. One little girl, about eight years of age, said she had saved £20, and the mother of another mentioned that her daughter had £8 or £9 in the Post Office. "That," said the magistrate, "is a very good start. There is nothing like teaching children to save while they are young."

Mr. Henry Doughty, of the Doughty-Leslie company, who has been serving his country in the "Remounts" branch of the A.S.C. since Sept. 24, and has been on foreign service since Oct. 14, was promoted to the rank of sergeant on Christmas Day. Quartered at a base, he is sent up with horses to the actual front, and has had some interesting experiences, his services as interpreter having also proved useful en route. In spite of extremely rough work and weather, he writes that he feels "wonderfully fit and younger than at 25."

Among the latest names to be added to the list of "The Profession with the Colours" is that of Mr. Derek Oldham, who played Bumerli in "The Chocolate Soldier" at the Lyric. He joined the Scots Guards soon after the close of the run of that diverting musical comedy, and is now in training at Caterham.

The Actors' War Emergency Fund has been substantially increased this week by the sum of £354 6s. 4d., allocated by special desire of Princess Mary from the receipts of the recent matinée at Drury Lane in aid of the soldiers and sailors. Other additions to the Fund are M. H. D., £5; Mr. Akerman May, £2; Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, per H. W. Ramsay, £1 2s.; Collecting Box, Liverpool Playgoers' Society, £1 5s. Mr George Edwardes is now to be included among those managers who are sending a guinea a week to the fund.

Mr. Willy Clarkson's Christmas card takes the form of a very fine photograph of himself with best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. The popular perruquier is doing his best to ensure the latter part of the phrase by providing the pantomimes with wigs and costumes that ought valuably to aid their success.

James C. Wilton has been engaged by Mr. Arthur Rosebery to play the Irish comedy part, Paddy Murphy, in the "Three Little Britons" production at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Jan. 4.

Mr. Harold Simpson's stirring poem, "Unconquerable," will be recited by Miss Edith Lester Jones during the approaching tour of the Messrs. Selwyn and Walter Dennis Repertory Company.

Under the sway of the Lord of Misrule it is difficult to imagine such a thing as a "serious pantomime." Yet such an item figured among the attractions presented by Macready, for Christmas Tuesday, 1814. The entertainment was announced to commence with "Young Ducrow's Ascension on a Balloon from the Stage to the Gallery carrying two persons in the Car." The melodrama, "The Orphan of the Castle, or the Black Banner," was varied by "performances on the tight rope by Young Ducrow," to which would be added "the serious Pantomime of Raymond and Agnes, or The Bleeding Nun."

Mr. W. W. Kelly is offering entertainment three-fold on Merseyside this Christmas and New Year season. At the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, "Red Riding Hood" was produced on Boxing Day with brilliant success, and Miss Cressie Leonard, Mr. Coningsby Brierley, Mr. Wm. Spray, and Mr. J. E. Conan scored undoubted hits. The pantomime is voted one of the most comical ever seen at the Fraser-street house, and experienced samplers prophesy a long and prosperous career.

At Kelly's Theatre, the Moody Manners Opera Co. is reviving the long-time glories of grand opera as a Christmas season attraction in Liverpool. The curtain rose on the matinée performance on Boxing Day after the biggest advance booking in the history of the house. Both Mr. Charles Manners and Madame Fanny Moody are appearing in some of their most popular rôles. Mr. Walter Hyde is a prominent member of the company.

At the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Mr. Kelly has Mr. Robert Courtneidge's principal company in "The Pearl Girl," and here also enormous success is to be recorded. Great favour is accorded the work of the company, headed by Miss Ruby Vyvyan and Mr. Harold Pearce.

Miss Ellen Terry has abandoned the remainder of her tour in Australia owing to the unsettled condition of things at the Antipodes, and has gone to America. She began her American tour in Boston on Dec. 16, prior to travelling West and South. She expects to remain some time in the United States.

Miss Terry has confided to a Boston interviewer the fact that there is an American drama. "I have heard doubt expressed upon that point," she declared, "but it exists. Altogether I have spent eight years in the United States, and I have watched the dramatic work most carefully, as perhaps was natural. You have playwrights and producers expressing the spirit of the people, men of poetic attainments who are putting their best into the higher form of stage representation. And it is not ephemeral by any means, this work. Of course, there are forms of stage presentation that are but for the moment, the lighter things, and they doubtless serve their purpose, but they are not permanent stones in the dramatic temple."

The distinguished actress attributes the progress thus made in large measure to the temperament of the people. "They will have none but the best, you see," she remarked. "The biggest, best things, and there is the money to pay for it. This naturally has its effect upon the national consciousness. One feels it everywhere, east and west and north and south. Of course, we recognise abroad that America is no longer an infant. Her character is formed in many ways, but the artistic impulses are perhaps those of one of your own merchant princes who has been busy constructing his pyramid of success and now, having leisure, notes with appreciation the beautiful things on every hand, and proceeds to the cultivation of the æsthetic side of his nature."

Just before the White Star liner Megantic sailed from New York for Liverpool on the 13th inst. a pier detective discovered a girl stowaway wearing boy's clothes in the locker under the port sidelight. The girl, who was dressed in a brown suit and hat and brown chinchilla overcoat, told the detective tearfully that her name was Christine Welford, and that she wanted to get to England to join the army with her brother. Further questioning elicited the information that the girl was the 16-year-old daughter of Dallas Welford, the comedian, and that she had been a drummer-boy in the "Wars of the World" at the Hippodrome. After being warned of the ordeal that stowaways have to face when they arrive on the other side, Christine was escorted off the pier.

Mr. Ben Davies, who is taking part in the performances of the "National Theatre" at the front, will return in time to sing in the New Year's performance of Handel's "Messiah" with the Royal Choral Society on New Year's Day.

Mr. Charles Aldred has been engaged, for the second year in succession, by Mr. Fred W. Warden as general manager for his pantomime at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin

With much regret we learn of the death of Mr. George Cole, for many years our correspondent at Brighton, who passed away on the 22nd inst. at his residence, Chanctonbury-road, Hové. Mr. Cole was much respected, and his loss will be much felt in journalistic circles in Brighton. He died on his 74th birthday, the cause of death being cardiac failure.

Writing from the Naval Hospital, Chatham, Mr. Evelyn Roberts, lieutenant in the Royal Naval Reserve, informs us that he is hors de combat for the time being. He has had to leave his ship owing to a nervous breakdown, not, however, he adds, without having had some good fun on the Belgian coast.

From South Africa comes an ode to honour written by Miss Mena Le Bert, the well-known actress. The lines, which are entitled "Forward, Men of the Empire for England's Honour," breathe an inspiring spirit of patriotism, and should stimulate the youth of the country to come forward in defence of the realm.

Mr. Sidney Davis appeals for recruits for the 2nd Sportsman's Battalion, which has a sprinkling of actors and others connected with the stage, but would be glad to welcome more. Vacancies exist for men up to the age of 45. Pay is at Army rates, and everything found, but those who desire can provide their own kit at a cost of £8 or £10. Application should be made, either by letter or in person, to the Chief Recruiting Officer at the Hotel Cecil.

Mr. T. Edward Ward is producing "Joy—Sister of Mercy," a new play by Eva Elwes, at the Hippodrome, Bilston, this week. The piece is due next week at the Metropole, Openshaw Manchester.

Mr. Robert Loraine, now a lieutenant in the Royal Flying Corps, is, our readers will be glad to learn, well on the road to recovery from the wound received while reconnoitring German positions from an airship. In a letter to the "Referee" last Saturday, Lieut. Loraine writes: "I am back in town for a while recovering from a wound I collected somewhat to the south-east of Ypres on Nov. 22, while doing a reconnaissance at five thousand feet over the enemy's lines. There was an officer commanding a certain German anti-aircraft battery, which did its best daily to bring me down, to whom I used to drop chaffing notes about his gunners' shooting. Well, I gave this fellow too good a chance on this occasion, as owing to a head wind which very nearly cancelled the speed of my machine I was, relatively to the aforesaid anti-aircraft guns, practically standing still over them. And he got me with a shrapnel ball, which entered my back near the liver and left me through my chest near my neck. I understand I have no right to be alive, but I am now romping along towards recovery, which my doctors say will be complete. So I shan't even be crocked."

FACING THE MUSIC.

BY JAMES M. GLOVER.

Now I hear rumours—oh! those rumours—of an "Anti-Foreign Music League." This promised contribution to the war's musical alarms is a result of the inanimate policy attributed to all those so-called patriots who fumed and strutted the arena of public agitation when the war broke out.

Fritz Kreisler is in New York wounded, after fighting for his native Austria. Austria, somehow or other, does not hold the same place in our hatred as its Teuton ally, but Herr Kreisler had better remain silent on the question of his love for England, on which he lets loose in sundry paragraphs. One has nothing but the very highest admiration for so great an artiste artistically, but war is war, and as one of our more serious and more successful principals of music said at a public meeting at the Queen's Hall: "I cannot get away from the fact that if I had a son at the front it is possible that it is Fritz Kreisler's bullet that may make me childless. Therefore, never again shall that gentleman receive an engagement at my hands." Strong words these; but can one be at all surprised?

For some years past we have been receiving some very excellent specimens of light English music from "Albert Matt," a real British product of the trombone family of players. I have now received a new composition from "Albert Mattausche." I do not know where the "Ausche" came from, but it is seasonably inappropriate. Is it the same source of melodic output?

Readers of this column who remember my often repeated suggestion that our Provincial Festivals only lacked prosperity because they were not run on business lines, will not be surprised to hear that the next Birmingham Festival has been abandoned. I have no criticism for the decision, as all the musical contemporaries have thoroughly thrashed out the situation; but if the business control of all these musical fêtes cannot be profitably carried on in peace time, one can imagine the fears for a possible prolonged war on the promised guarantees. But then are we not up against the sincerity of our "Business as Usual" motto? This is eminently a year when the Festival Committees could all have got their artistes and musicians much cheaper, and so established a precedent in economy, which would have been a good presage for future administration.

"Betty," which was produced at Manchester on Christmas Eve, is dealt with in another column. I hear that it is a fact that on the outbreak of war Mr. George Edwardes had up his sleeve five German and Austrian pieces for future Daly and Gaiety consumption, and it is this fact alone that has caused the closing of the Gaiety for so long. On the other hand, the Laurillard-Grossmith Syndicate, which produced "To-night's the Night" at an outside "try-it-on-the-dog" town, near New York, on Saturday of last week, have an option to return to the Gaiety with that play when it comes back from its New York production. Cablegrams, private and otherwise, are contradictory as to its American reception. The play is a musical version of "Pink Dominos."

There is a good deal of heartburning over this going out to the front "Concert Party." It appears that there were two Richmonds in the field, or, rather, two regiments going to the field—one headed by Miss Marie Lloyd, and the other headed by Mr. Seymour Hicks. And now we know which side has won. It has been arranged that Miss Ellaline Terriss shall return to "Merrie Engaad" on Wednesday (to-day). For my own part, I am certain that a sort of musical entertainment, provided permanently with a change of artistes weekly, at, say, Boulogne or some basal depôt, would be the best way of negotiating such a desirable charitable object.

Musicians are periodically writing me for the names of the musical directors to apply to at various London theatres for engagements. I have a more or less imperfect list, but owing to the fact that several managements change their "chefs" with their tenancies, it is not complete. I shall, however, publish the list in a week or so, and if any gentleman "in active service" cares to send me his name and appointment, I will be pleased to add it to the rota.

Will Mr. Aubrey Standing please write me?

I have never looked upon "Boiled beef and carrots" as a very savoury setting for music, but this week I have seen a setting from an ancient manuscript of "Bubble and squeak." This appropriately enough, was written by a Dr. Kitchinir.

In the plethora of patriotic music I mentioned which had been sent to me this season, there arrived very late a ditty which touched me very much. It was written in the trenches at —, and the writer in a covering letter puts it very pathetically: "I am afraid I haven't been able to elaborate it very much; there is very little time. I have had to do it in the evenings by the flickering of a very bad oil lamp and make the best of the tools at hand. Still, you wouldn't wonder at the sentiments expressed if you could see what we see." Here are the words:—

"COME ON BOYS."

There's a rumour flying round
That there's fellows to be found
Who haven't shown the pluck that Nature gave 'em;
But we know it isn't true,
Come on boys, it can't be you,
To deny your pals the power you've got to save 'em.

CHORUS.

Come on boys—Can't you hear the call?
Side by side, we'll conquer or we'll fall.
Hopes are always strong, that it won't be long,
Ere a million more of you we'll see.
You're all right under K. of K.,
Plucky Belgium, she has led the way,
French and Joffre here, so you've naught to fear.
Come on boys, for King and Country.

It is you we're wanting now,
This is everybody's row;
Won't you come and give your pals a helping hand?
With your help we'll give 'em beans,
Show the brutes that "Tommy" means
To keep their "Kultur" from his peaceful land.

CHORUS.

Bernard D. Cropper.

Dec. 20, 1914.

The sentiment is rough but honest. If a man can set himself down in the trenches in this weather to write patriotic songs—also to compose the music—and this on a long sheet of ruled paper all in pencil, stuck together with sticking plaster (the writer is in a dispensary hospital)—then the call to arms is a serious matter. Corporal B. Cropper, 4th Stationary Hospital, has my congratulations.

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ON THE ROAD.

ALL ABOARD.—Dec. 28, New T., Hitchin; Jan. 4, Coliseum, Goole.
ALL YE THAT PASS BY.—Dec. 28, Grand T., Halifax.
AN INDIAN GIRL'S DEVOTION.—Dec. 28, Empire T., Ushaw Moor; Jan. 4, Gaiety T., Houghton.
AUSTRALIAN NELL.—Dec. 28, Pal. T., Scunthorpe; Jan. 11, Northwick.
BABES IN THE WOOD (VENTOM SWIFT'S).—Dec. 28, New T., Gateshead-on-Tyne.
BABY MINE.—Dec. 28, T.R., Merthyr; Jan. 4, Palace, Westcliff-on-Sea.
BLIND GIRL'S LOVE.—Dec. 28, Palace T., Rochdale.
BONNIE MARY.—Dec. 28, Hippo., Cannock; Jan. 4, Palace, Durham.
BONNIE PIT LAD, THE.—Dec. 28, Cresswell.
CHALMERS-MACKEY, MR.—Jan. 4, Empire T., Belfast.
CINDERELLA (MOUILLOT).—Dec. 28, O.H., Cheltenham.
CINGALEE.—Dec. 28, Royal T., Dudley.
COLLIER'S LASS.—Dec. 28, Pav., Pontnewynyder.
COMPTON, MR. EDWARD.—Dec. 28, Perth T., Perth; Jan. 4, King's T., Kilmarnock.
COUNT OF LUXEMBOURG.— Dec. 28, Grand T., Southampton.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Dec. 28, Haggar's T., Llanelly.
DARK SECRET, A.—Dec. 28, Colosseum, Oldham; Jan. 4, Metropole T., Gateshead.
DEVIL-MAY-CARE.—Dec. 28, Workman's Hall, Ferndale.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Dec. 28, O.H., Leicester.
DUST OF EGYPT.—Jan. 4, New T., Salisbury.
EAST LYNNE.—Dec. 28, Grand T., Pentre; Jan. 4, T.R., Rotherham.
FIND THE LADY.—Dec. 26, T.R., Whitehaven; 31, T.R., Coatbridge.
FROZEN NORTH CO.—Dec. 28, Alex., Hull.
GAMBLER, THE.—Dec. 28, Hippo., Stockton; Jan. 4, T.R., Wolverhampton.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—Dec. 28, Hippo., Burslem; Jan. 4, Palace, Rugeley.
GIPSY LOVE (S.).—Dec. 26, Royal, Halifax.
GIRL FROM NOWHERE, — Dec. 28, O.H., Dudley.
GIRL WHO BROKE HER MOTHER'S HEART.—Dec. 28, King's T., Longsight.
GOOD-BYE, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE.—Dec. 28, Royal T., Barry.
GOODY TWO SHOES. — Dec. 26, Palace, Maidstone.
GRUMPY.—Dec. 28, T.R., Aldershot; Jan. 4, Lyceum T., Ipswich.
HERITAGE OF HATE.—Dec. 28, G.T., Luton.
HOOKIN' O' SANDY.—Dec. 28, H.M.T., Carlisle; Jan. 4, O.H., Dumfries.
INDIAN SCOUT, THE.—Dec. 28, T.R., Leicester. Jan. 4, T.R., Darlington.
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK.—Dec. 24, G.T., Halifax; Jan. 4, Grand T., Halifax.
JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHREN.—Dec. 26, King's T., Sunderland.
LADY SLAVEY, THE.—Dec. 28, T.R., Norwich; Jan. 4, T.R., Norwich.
MAN'S BEST PAL.—Dec. 28, T.R., Bedford Leigh; Jan. 4, T.R., Tyldesley.
MARGARET, RED CROSS NURSE (A CO).—Dec. 28, O.H., Wakefield.
MARGARET, RED CROSS NURSE (B CO.).—Dec. 28, Palace T., Claycross.
MARRIED TO THE WRONG WOMAN (A CO.).—Dec. 28, Palace, Claycross.
MARRIED TO THE WRONG WOMAN (B CO.).—Dec. 28, O.H., Wakefield.
MERELY MARY ANN.—Dec. 28, P.O.W., Grimsby.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Dec. 28, Empire, Cradley Heath.
MILL GIRL'S WEDDING.—Dec. 28, T.R., Castleford; Jan. 4, Hippo., Burslem.
MIRANDA OF THE WILDS. — Dec. 28, T.R., Wolverhampton; Jan. 4, T.R., Oldham.
MOODY-MANNERS' OPERA.—Dec. 26, Kelly's T., Liverpool, for eight weeks' season.
MOTHERLESS.—Dec. 28, Princes T., Portsmouth.
MY AUNT.—Dec. 28, Folkestone and Hastings; Jan. 4, D.P.T., Eastbourne.
OLD HOME, THE.—Dec. 28, T.R., Tyldesley.
OLD ROSARY.—Dec. 28, Playhouse, Stafford; Jan. 4, Playhouse, Stafford.
PEARL GIRL (NORTH CO.).—Dec. 28, Lyceum T., Edinburgh, for four weeks.
PET OF THE RANCH.—Dec. 28, Paisley T., Paisley.
PIT LAD'S SACRIFICE, THE.—Royal T., Coatbridge.
PITMAN'S DAUGHTERS, A.—Dec. 28, Grand T., Lancaster; Jan. 4, Empire T., Cradley Heath.
PRAIRIE OUTLAW.—Dec. 28, Alex., Pontefract.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE.—Dec. 28, Royalty T., Morecambe.
PYGMALION.—Dec. 31, Pleasure G., Folkestone; Jan. 4, Grand T., Swansea.
RAYNOR REP. CO.—Dec. 28, Royal T., Oldham.
ROBINSON CRUSOE.—Dec. 28, Hippo., Spennymoor.
ROYAL DIVORCE, A.—Dec. 26, Victoria T., Kettering; Dec. 31, T.R., Peterborough; Jan. 4, King's T., Sunderland.
SECOND IN COMMAND.—Dec. 28, T.R., Margate.
SECOND MRS. TANQUERAY.—Dec. 28, Hereford and Abergavenny.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Dec. 28, T.R., Sunderland; Jan. 4, T.R., Seaham Harbour.
SIR J. FORBES-ROBERTSON'S FAREWELL.—Dec. 21, San Francisco, Cal., Cort T., for three weeks.
STILL ALARM.—Dec. 28, Scala T., Seacombe.
SOLDIER'S HONOUR.—Dec. 28, Palace, Bordesley; Jan. 4, Grand, Luton.
SON OF A JEW.—Dec. 28, Pier Pav., Southport; Jan. 4, Palace T., Halifax.
STORY OF THE ROSARY (SOUTH CO.).—Jan. 4, T.R., Merthyr Tydfil.
STORY OF THE ROSARY (NORTH CO.).—Dec. 26, G.T., West Hartlepool; Jan. 4, T.R., South Shields.
TOMMY ATKINS.—Dec. 28, Queen's T., Leeds; Jan. 4, T.R., Bury.
WHEN THERE WAS WAR.—Dec. 28, T.R., West Bromwich; Jan. 4, Hippo., Birkenhead.
WHY HE DIVORCED HER (C. HARRINGTON'S CO.).—Dec. 28, Palace, Redditch; Jan. 4, O.H., Leamington.
WIFE'S DEVOTION, A.—Dec. 28, Pav. T., Morley.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Jan. 4, T.R., Margate.

"MIRANDA OF THE WILDS."

Play, in Four Acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, produced at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, Dec. 24.

Kenneth Gordon ..... Mr. T. W. Dunscombe
Jim Arlington .....Mr. J. C. Carlyle
Lawyer Bill ..... Mr. Fred Garrett
John Melsome ..... Mr. Albert E. Bannister
Richard Gordon ..... Mr. Charles Warne
Ferdinand ..... Mr. Percy Johnson
Roberts ..... Mr. Frank Camp
Gowong ..... Mr. Joseph Smith
Beauty Smith .....Mr. F. Austin
Brown Princess ..... Miss Lilian Bales
Decima Deane .....Miss Joan Elliss
Miranda of the Wilds ..Mrs. F. G. Kimberley

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

It is safe to say that in her latest play Mrs. Kimberley has excelled herself, for we have a play which grips one from start to finish by the intensity of the story and the admirable way in which it is unfolded.

Richard Gordon, struck with remorse at his former treatment of his son Kenneth, makes the journey to Alaska in order to bring him home and reinstate him as his heir. Kenneth is overjoyed at the reunion with his father, but the latter will not agree to Kenneth's proposal that he shall take Decima Deane home as his wife. Richard Gordon makes two wills, one in favour of Kenneth and another leaving all he has to his natural son, Jim Arlington. Decima has been married secretly to Jim Arlington, a fact of which Kenneth is unaware. Therefore, Arlington uses his wife as a cat's-paw to endeavour to prevent Kenneth going back to England. But over the destinies of Kenneth is eagerly watching Miranda, who is hopelessly in love with the young man. Miranda endeavours to prove to Kenneth the hopelessness of his love for Decima, and eventually Kenneth learns from Decima's own lips the reason she has perpetually refused to marry him. Thus enlightened, Kenneth decides to accept his father's offer and return with him to England.

Twelve months elapse between the first and second acts, during which time Kenneth's father has died, and his son has succeeded to his wealth. In a London suburban villa we find Miranda installed as his mistress, but much trammelled by conventionality and tight skirts. To this retreat comes Jim Arlington, who is to accompany Kenneth Gordon on his Arctic expedition, and Decima. The sight of the latter revives all Kenneth's old love for her, a fact which becomes quite obvious to Miranda, who attempts to poison Decima, but is prevented by the cry of the latter's child.

In act 3 is depicted a blizzard in the Arctic regions, one of the finest stage illusions we have seen. Here Kenneth and Jim Arlington are left alone in the still white silence of the ice, and Arlington attacks Kenneth, who is much weakened by exposure, but in this he is frustrated by the arrival of the relief party. Act 4 brings us back to England. Kenneth and Miranda are married. Arlington endeavours to persuade Miranda to elope with him, until, worked up into a state of fury at his jibes, she fatally stabs him, and is herself shot by a Red Indian in revenge for her killing one of his comrades. Thus all obstacles are swept away, and Kenneth Gordon and Decima are left free to live proverbially "happy ever after."

Of the company responsible for the production it would be almost invidious to mention one more than another, but to say that Mrs. F. G. Kimberley enacted the title-rôle is a guarantee that it had a thoroughly artistic exponent. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe was really excellent as Kenneth Gordon, and Mr. J. C. Carlyle made a capital villain as Jim Arlington. The scenery, which was from the Theatre Royal studios, is elaborate, and elicited much applause.

With the collection made at the Brixton Palladium during last week on behalf of "Smokes for our Soldiers and Sailors," for which good purpose Mrs. Courtice Pounds gave her services, she is pleased to state that the result has enabled her to provide Christmas smokes for a number of the wounded at the Croydon Hospital. Mrs. Courtice Pounds personally distributed the same at the hospital last Wednesday.

"LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY."

Revival, at the Playhouse, of Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's Play on Boxing Day.

Earl of Dorincourt .....Mr. Alfred Brydone
Cedric Errol .....Little Cora Goffin
Mr. Havisham ..... Mr. J. J. Bartlett
Mr. Hobbs ..... Mr. F. Owen Baxter
Higgins ..... Mr. Fred Grove
Wilkins ..... Mr. Christmas Grose
Dick ..... Mr. Albert E. Bennett
Thomas ..... Mr. Ray
Mina ..... Miss Ella Erskine
Mary ..... Miss Maud Shelton
Mrs. Errol ..... Miss Lilian Braithwaite

It was in 1888 that "Little Lord Fauntleroy" first saw the light in London, with a cast which, seen in the glow of later stage-history, was a remarkable one; for every one of its members has achieved distinction in the profession, several have climbed to the highest places on the Thespian ladder. Two, alas! have since journeyed to the bourne whence no traveller returns—Fanny Brough, who was Mary, and Brandon Thomas, who took the part of the lawyer, Havisham. Miss Winifred Emery was Mrs. Errol, Miss Vera Beringer the little Lord, and her sister Esmé Dick Tipton. Mr. Albert Chevalier took the part of Silas Hobbs, and Mr. Alfred Bishop that of the Earl of Dorincourt. Many are the memories of past and present triumphs these names recall; but it may be said at the outset that the cast now to be seen at the Playhouse has little to fear from comparison. Little Cora Goffin made her way straight to the hearts of her audience, for the most part a juvenile one, as soon as she ran on the stage after winning the invisible race that we hear so much about in the first act, and there she remained. She acted with rare intelligence and much charm, managed to display all the uncommon virtues of the faultless little Fauntleroy without being priggish, and withal was quite as un-girlish as any long-curled boy in these days has any business to be. Miss Lilian Braithwaite gave a sincere and beautiful study of the part of "Dearest." She seemed the very embodiment of mother-love, and her sweetness and tenderness brought tears to the eyes. Mr. J. J. Bartlett made an agreeable lawyer of Mr. Haviland, and Miss Maud Shelton was very good as Irish Mary. Mr. F. Owen Baxter positively revelled in the part of Mr. Hobbs, the democratic grocer, who never says anything stronger than "jiggered," and his make-up and accent were fearfully and wonderfully true to tradition. Miss Ella Erskine's Mina was a clever, sharply-cut study of the sadly-bad wife of the worthless eldest son, whose son turned out not to be his son at all. She also betrayed a full-blooded American accent, and her very clothes shouted adventuress from the housetops. Game and defiant to the last was Mina, even when Dick, the New York professional shoeblack (Mr. Albert E. Bennett) turned up at the ancestral castle in the very nick of time to recognise her as the wife of his Californy brother. And as for the Earl of Mr. Alfred Brydone—he is so good that he could not be better. What a bad lot he is at first, justifying in the most satisfactory way the worst apprehensions of Mr. Hobbs; how he made us laugh with his gout and his bad temper, and how sweetly and surely his conversion was brought about by the unconscious little Lord, who couldn't see him in his real colours; until, at last, when he said he loved the boy—yes, and the boy loved him, old curmudgeon though he was—and that he wouldn't give him up, even though it should turn out that he wasn't the rightful heir, we laughed in quite a queer choky way. A word must be given to the Higgins of Mr. Fred Grove, right in the picture as the broken-down farmer-tenant, lachrymosely grateful for the privilege of staying on in the Earl's insanitary cottage, together with his seven ailing children.

Well, well! It's a long, long way from the sleek senilities of the 'seventies and 'eighties to these alert and questioning days, but it was pleasant enough to get back there for a space—pleasanter still to feel that the distance has been covered.

The reception was most enthusiastic, and there were many recalls.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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F. B. (Camberwell).—*There is a case relating to a stage-play which completely covers yours. It is that of Broad v. Meyer, decided by Mr. Justice Warrington in 1912. The plaintiff was the owner of the copyright of a play entitled "Where There's a Will There's a Way." The defendant produced a play entitled, "Where There's a Will ——." There was no allegation of an infringement of copyright with regard to the substance of the plays, but in each the progress of the plot gave to the word "will" in the title the peculiar meaning of testament. It was held that the peculiar significance of the words did not render a common or hackneyed phrase a subject of copyright. Therefore, it clearly follows that you can have no copyright in the phrase as used as the title of your play. If you had already produced the work under that title, and were well known as the author of it, and if you could prove that the use of the same title by anyone else was calculated to deceive the public into believing they were going to see your play, and to cause damage to you, you would have a good right of action apart from copyright. But the facts prevent this right also, and we can only advise you that you have no remedy.*

"ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE."

On Saturday, Dec. 26, Revival at the Princes Theatre of the Play, in Four Acts, entitled "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE."

Frank Fairway .....Mr. Henry Lonsdale
Charles Hedley .....Mr. H. E. Herbert
Will Rawson ....Mr. Ronald Adair
General Fairway.....Mr. Hugh Montgomery
Bob Wittles .....Mr. Andrew Emm
Geo. Middleton .....Mr. George Mitchell
Private Jones .....Mr. Harry Hartley
Ned Farley .....Mr. George Maxted
Joe Hurley .....Mr. Frank Elsworthy
Nick Bothwick .....Mr. W. Jackson
Police Inspector Stacey ....Mr. Jack Clark
Phœbe Smith .....Miss Nell Browne
Private Will Smith .....Mr. Hart Lindsay
Jack Harkaway .....Mr. Alke Blower
P.C. Merry .....Mr. P. Warden
Sergeant Millward .....Mr. Norman Leyland
Mary Parkins .....Miss Bessie Walters
Molly Thorne .....Miss Lilian Hallows
Master Frank .....Little Violet Marley
Madge Middleton .....Miss Rose Ralph

This play, which gives some real and stirring illustrations of military life, and which had a very successful run on its first production some fourteen years ago, is well adapted for revival at the present time, when a great war is raging on the Continent. It takes us back to the period of the Boer War, as we are reminded by the references in the play to that memorable campaign. The interesting story is unfolded in four acts, and there happens to be a strong reminder of present-day requirements in the "call to arms," which comes at the end of the second act, while, in the following act, there is a thrilling scene at the seat of war, where a gallant band hold out until the timely arrival of the Naval Brigade with a real machine gun. These telling scenes were on Boxing Day received at the Prince's by packed audiences afternoon and evening with rounds of enthusiastic applause and approval. One can safely predict a renewed lease of life for this exceedingly strong military play.

Will Rawson, the sailor, who afterwards becomes a soldier, has a manly and robust representative in Mr. Ronald Adair. Mr. Henry Lonsdale gives an excellent rendering of Frank Fairway, Will's successful rival in the affections of Madge Middleton, a part played with much charm of manner and delicate feeling by Miss Rose Ralph. Mr. H. E. Herbert deserves praise for an admirable embodiment of the scheming, unscrupulous Charles Hedley. Mr. George Maxted makes good use of his opportunities as Ned Farley, the leading spirit of a gang of thieves, and is well supported by Messrs. Frank Elsworthy and W. Jackson as his mates. Mr. George Mitchell is quietly effective as the landlord of the "Cherry Tree" Inn, and General Fairway has a suitable representative in Mr. Hugh Montgomery. As the village postman, Bob Wittles, Mr. Andrew Emm gives a delightfully humorous portrayal, and quickly wins the favourable verdict of the audience; while as his sweetheart, Mary Parkins, Miss Bessie Walters is to be complimented on a pleasing and very natural assumption of a country-bred girl. Miss Lilian Hallows supplies a careful and successful study of the adventuress, Molly Thorne. Little Violet Marley appears as Master Frank, and other minor rôles are entrusted to Messrs. Harry Hartley, Jack Clark, Hart Lindsay, Alke Blower, P. Warden, Norman Leyland, and Miss Nell Browne. In regard to scenery and general effects the production is thoroughly satisfactory.

"CINDERS" AT BUXTON.

At Buxton Opera House on Saturday evening the opening performance of a successful pantomime was given by members of the Buxton Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society. The book of "Cinders" has been written by Mr. Allan Milton, proprietor of the Hippodrome, the proceeds of the five performances are to be used for the relief of local distress in connection with the war, and there was an overflow house.

Deserving of special remark are the capable readings of the parts of Cinders by Miss Aggie Gummer, Peter Nomoney by Miss Georgina Myrtle, Fairy Love by Miss Agnes Shirt, Widow Nomoney by Mrs. J. G. Turner (a very excellent performance), Whiffey by Mr. P. Jackson, and last, but not least, Toddles by Mr. W. R. Sanders.

The book contains much that is smart and up to date, both locally and topically, and the takings reached three figures on the opening night. Mr. Sydney Boughen was in charge of a capable orchestra, and the various choruses, etc., showed careful and intelligent training.

On Christmas evening close on two thousand soldiers billeted in Bath were entertained to tea and supper by the citizens. Between 6.30 and 8.30 entertainments were given at the Palace Theatre, the Picturedrome, the Vaudeville, and the Electric Theatres by kind permission of their respective managements, the staffs readily volunteering their services for the occasion. At each house well-known local ladies and gentlemen sang ballads, glees, and humorous songs, and at the Palace Theatre the Pump Room Orchestra gave their services, performing a couple of patriotic selections. The whole of the musical arrangements were carried out by Mr. H. Brin Mundy, the Bath correspondent of "The Era," who was heartily congratulated upon the successful results of his efforts.

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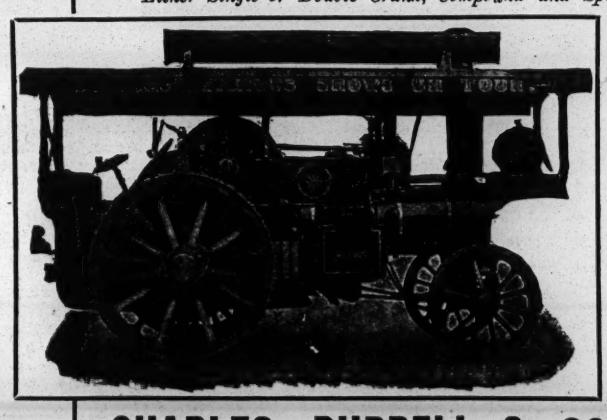

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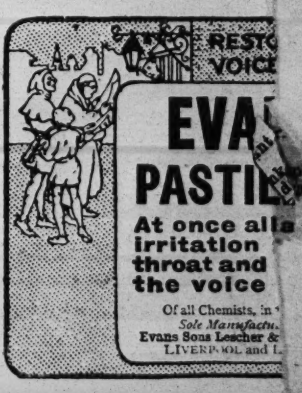

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THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Boxing Day, Dec. 26,
"WHERE THE RAINBOW ENDS."

For the first time since the opening of this theatre, Mr. Mulholland dispensed with a pantomime, and produced instead on Boxing Day the charming and fantastic play named above, which is well calculated to cheer the hearts of young and old during the present time of stress. We are glad to chronicle that the experiment has met with complete success, the theatre being packed on Boxing Day, and the advance booking is heavy. The play appears to have been somewhat re-written and brought up to date, the patriotic utterances of St. George of England evoking the loudest of cheers. Mr. Edward Rigby as the wicked uncle, Joseph Flint, is most amusingly villainous, and the Frenchman, M. Bertrand, is cleverly played by Mr. Henry Morrell. Mr. Henry Wenman is an admirable Dragon King, and the Genie of the Carpet is capably sustained by Mr. Norman Macowan, who also renders the part of Captain Carey effectively. Mr. Herbert Porter gives a good picture of The Slacker, and Master Guido Chiarletti makes a decided success as the Lion Cub. Crispian Carey and Jim Blunders are excellently performed by Master Eric Rae and Master Harold French, both being very natural impersonations. As St. George of England, Mr. Reginald Owen looks the part, and scores a decided triumph. Miss Mavis Yorke as Will o' the Wisp shows very marked ability as a dancer, so that the floral presentations to her at the end of the performance were very well deserved. Miss Kathleen Jones is the daintiest of Rosamunds; Olga Warneford as Betty Blunders is well appreciated; the Matilda Flint of Miss Nellie Bouverie proves what comic power this talented actress possesses; the Sea Witch is well portrayed by Mrs. Bertie Murray, and the Spirit of the Lake finds a graceful dancer in Miss Grace Seppings. Miss Lydia Bilbrooke plays the small part of Mrs. Carey in very distinguished fashion. The scenery designed by Tom Haslewood and painted by Alfred R. Craven is very beautiful, and the dresses are appropriate. The music is directed by Mr. Alexander Humphreys, and the dances are beautifully arranged by Miss Italia Conti.

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Mr. Carl Hentschel, to whose enthusiastic work on behalf of the members of the profession distressed through the war is due the success of the O.P. Club Drake Dinner, sends us as we go to press a cheque for £335.

It is the desire of the president and committee of the O.P. Club that this sum be added to the "Era War Distress Fund," in order to help the work of relieving urgent cases of distress in the profession, and the president, committee, and members of the O.P. Club express the greatest pleasure in being able to assist the "Era War Distress Fund" in its work.

The honorary treasurer is deeply grateful to the president, the vice-president, Mr. G. B. Burgin, and the committee and members of the O.P. Club for thus adding wealth to its resources, which have been much depleted by the continued drain upon its purse due to the war distress among members of the profession.

The Hon. Treasurer gratefully acknowledges the following amounts received since our last issue:—

Amount already acknowledged	£1,062	7	8
The O.P. Club	335	6	6
Mr. John Hyman	2	2	0
Miss Sarah Benett	1	1	0
Mr. Joseph Millane's "Married to the Wrong Woman" Co., per Mr. Jack Thomas (12th contribution)		6	6
Frank Wickins, Member of the National Assoc. Theat. Emp.		2	0
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THE "DRAKE" BALANCE SHEET.

Appended is a copy of the balance sheet of the season of "Drake" given at His Majesty's in aid of the Prince of Wales' Fund and the Actors' Benevolent Fund last autumn. The prices of admission, it will be remembered, were lowered by half, and the staff of the theatre gave their services at greatly reduced salaries.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—SIR HERBERT TREE.
PERFORMANCES OF "DRAKE," AUG. 19 TO NOV. 11, 1914.
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

By house receipts and rental of bars, programmes, &c.				£18,459	13	10
By opera-glass commission				24	10	0
By profit on sale of books				14	19	2
By donations				59	1	6
				18,558	4	6
Less preliminary and rehearsal expenses	£871	5	6			
Running expenses, including salaries, orchestra, advertising, printing, etc.	11,349	14	1			
Compensation to artistes for delay in production of "David Copperfield"	355	12	8			
Proportion of rent, rates, insurance, water, telephones, and standing expenses (12 weeks and 1 day)	3,947	0	0	16,523	12	1
Net profit				2,034	12	3
Appropriated as follows:						
To Prince of Wales' Fund— Mr. Louis N. Parker, royalties waived	£895	10	10			
Sir Herbert Tree	121	15	4	1,017	6	2
To Actors' Benevolent Fund:— Sir Herbert Tree				1,017	6	1
				£2,034	12	3

Auditors' Certificate.—We have examined the above account with the books and vouchers of the theatre, and, in our opinion, the profit on the production, as shown therein, namely, £2,034 12s. 3d., is correct. No payment to Sir Herbert Tree is included therein, and no reserve has been made for any income tax on these profits, which may be claimed by the Inland Revenue officials.
(Signed) GUNDRY, STRAUS AND SOPER, Chartered Accountants,
Dec. 4, 1914.

THE CORONET.

On Saturday, Dec. 26, Shakespeare's Fairy Play, "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM."

On Boxing Day Messrs. Henry Herbert and A. Brough Pearce's company successfully presented "A Midsummer Night's Dream," perhaps Shakespeare's prettiest and best fairy play. It is excellently well suited to the spirit of Christmas, and being capitally interpreted all round by a cast of exceptional strength, and beautifully mounted, it is likely to gain great favour during its fortnight's run. It will be succeeded by "The Merry Wives of Windsor." Miss Sylvia Cecil, as Titania, speaks her lines delightfully and acts well. Miss Phyllis Harcourt, as Oberon, makes a very graceful and handsome fairy king. Mr. Clive Currie, as Bottom the Weaver, gives an exceedingly humorous impersonation. Mr. Randall Ayston, as Quince, acts with great spirit. Mr. A. Brough Pearce, as Demetrius, acts with vigour and virility, and plays well his part. Miss Dorothy Green, as Hermia, gives a charming, classical and convincing performance; and Miss Rosie St. John, as Puck, is bright and alert. Mr. Henry Boyston, as Lysander, acts with fire and fervour. Other parts are played by Gladys Venderzee, Olive Noble, and J. H. Stannus. Miss Rene Challis trips it deftly on the light fantastic toe, and Miss Elsa Davis, as the singing fairy, is in capital voice, and is well supported in the part songs. The decking of the proscenium is very tasteful and picturesque. Mr. W. H. Savery acts as manager to the company. The dances are arranged by Gwladys Dillon, and the orchestra is under the capable direction of clever Mr. Wilson Dibble. Mr. K. Wicksteed stage manages.

"DAVID COPPERFIELD."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In Mr. Adair Fitzgerald's interesting article in last week's "Era" he thinks that John Brougham's version of "David Copperfield" was never done in England."

It was—I played Micawber in it as long ago as 1883 in the provinces.—Yours truly,
FRED GROVE.
The Playhouse, Dec. 24.

Mr. Harry Joseph and Miss Lena Stanton's pantomime opened to a tremendous house, and is now breaking all records in Halifax. The pantomime goes with a swing, and causes endless laughter. Audiences join heartily in the chorases.

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THE ERA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1914.

THE DRAMA IN 1914.

Auspicious in its beginning, the last five months of the theatrical year of 1914 have been darkened and depressed by the heavy clouds of war. But there has been, and will be, a brave struggle to realise the motto "Business as Usual"; and by reviving favourite plays and lowering prices, London managers have succeeded in attracting the patronage of a large portion of the theatre-going public. As the strain of the crisis in the earlier weeks of the war relaxed, and common sense reasserted its sway over the minds of the people, fresh enterprises made a tentative appearance in the theatre, some to take root and flourish, others to be withdrawn until a more opportune time.

At His Majesty's, Sir HERBERT TREE's first original production of the year was Mr. BERNARD SHAW's "Pygmalion," new to London, though already seen in Berlin. The rich vernacular of the author of "Mrs. Warren's Profession" raised some controversy, which was exactly in accordance with the Shavian tradition of personal booming. The fine performances of Sir HERBERT TREE, Mrs. PATRICK CAMPBELL, and Mr. EDMUND GURNEY attracted a good deal of attention. Postponing the production of "David Copperfield," promised for early September, Sir HERBERT appropriately revived in its place Mr. LOUIS PARKER's patriotic play, "Drake," which filled His Majesty's for two months, at reduced prices, all the profits being divided between the Actors' Benevolent War Distress Fund and the National Relief Fund. The revival of "Henry IV.," Part I., in November, did not win the financial success it deserved.

Starting on Jan. 1, at the St. James's, with a translation of BERNSTEIN's clever play, "The Attack," which had a successful run, Sir GEORGE ALEXANDER, always a most loyal supporter of British dramatists, next produced "The Two Virtues," Mr. ALFRED SUTRO's only contribution to the drama of the year, in which Sir GEORGE scored a personal triumph in a new type of character. In September, a first play of a new woman dramatist (Mrs. J. T. GREIN) was seen at the St. James's, and this was succeeded by a revival of "His House in Order," by Sir ARTHUR PINERO, from whom we have had nothing new for a long time.

Two glorious artistic successes are to the credit of Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER, a daring and original revival of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Savoy, and the production of Mr. THOMAS HARDY's epic drama, "The Dynasts," still running at the Kingsway. Both productions mark a complete breaking away from stage convention. After a long absence from the Garrick Theatre, Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER celebrated his return in the autumn by the production of "Bluff King Hal," by Mr. LOUIS PARKER, a play of great historical interest wisely taken off after a short run until more favourable times. It was succeeded by a translation from the French, "The Double Mystery," in which a remarkable study in dual personality was wonderfully portrayed by Mr. BOURCHIER.

Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN's great success of the year has been "The Land of Promise," by W. S. MAUGHAM, which had a run of seven months.

At the Haymarket, Mr. FREDERICK HARRISON met with a fair measure of success with "Driven," by E. TEMPLE THURSTON, one of the few problem plays of the year. In September Mr. HARRISON produced a play of great psychological interest, "The Impossible Woman," an adaptation of Mrs. SEDGWICK's novel, "Tante." The principal rôles were admirably sustained by Miss LILLAH MCCARTHY and Mr. GODFREY TEARLE, a young actor whose progress this year has been very marked. At the Royalty, Messrs. VEDRENNE and EADIE won the approval of the public with "My Lady's Dress," by EDWARD KNOBLAUCH. They are also to be congratulated on the production of an amusing and inoffensive war play, "The Man Who Stayed at Home," by Messrs. WORRALL and TERRY.

Messrs. MCKINNEL and WHELEN's not very successful tenancy of the Vaudeville was nevertheless responsible for the production of Mr. ARNOLD BENNETT's charming comedy, "Helen With the High Hand." Later in the year Mr. H. V. ESMOND's play, "The Dangerous Age," was seen at this theatre. At the Savoy Mr. H. B. IRVING gave us Mr. STEPHEN PHILLIPS's beautiful and poetic play in blank verse, "The Sin of David," which proved too sombre for the public taste.

NORREYS CONNELL's "Thank Your Ladyship" and HENRY POWELL's "The Wynmartens," were produced by Miss MARIE TEMPEST at the Playhouse. Neither play is likely to leave any permanent mark on the drama of the day. Messrs. ALLAN AYNESWORTH and BRONSON ALBERY entered into management at the Criterion early in the year with a light comedy by CYRIL HARCOURT, "A Pair of Silk Stockings," the most successful of their productions.

"The Outcasts," by H. H. DAVIES, has been Mr. FRANK CURZON's chief enterprise this year. Miss ETHEL LEVEY deserted the variety stage to play the heroine. At the Globe Mr. OSCAR ASCHE presented a Zulu play in September, "Mameena," a dramatisation of Sir RIDER HAGGARD's novel. It is of some ethnological interest. Miss MARY MOORE had a short season at the Criterion, producing a charming comedy by W. T. COLEBY, "Sir Richard's Biography," which we hope to see revived in happier days. Another play that we should like to see revived later on is Mr. GEORGE COHAN's "Seven Keys to Baldpate," produced by Mr. CHARLES HAWTREY at the Apollo in the autumn. Mr. CYRIL MAUDE made his appearance only in "Grumpy," with which he had previously scored a big success in the United States.

An interesting feature of 1914 is the success of plays dealing with the Jew as a living type, and not as hitherto represented, an exaggerated imitation. Mr. ZANGWILL's propaganda play, "The Melting Pot," is a case in point. Others are the tremendously successful "Potash and Perlmutter" and Mr. SHEFFAUER's comedy of New York Ghetto life, "The New Shylock," produced by Mr. P. M. FARADAY and brilliantly played by Mr. LOUIS CALVERT.

The lack of original musical comedies is another feature of the year. Two new productions have been seen, "The Joy Ride Lady" at the New and "The Cinema Star," presented by Mr. ROBERT COURTNEIDGE at the Shaftesbury, both adaptations from the German. In the latter Miss DOROTHY WARD made a big hit.

On the removal of the Censor's ban IBSEN's "Ghosts" and MAETERLINCK's "Monna Vanna" had their first public performances in London, played in both cases by the Independent Players. In "Ghosts" Mr. LEON QUARTERMAINE established his reputation as a wonderful interpreter of IBSEN.

Of the American imports none have attained greater popularity than "Peg o' My Heart," by J. HARTLEY MANNERS. The success is largely due to the remarkable acting of Miss LAURETTE TAYLOR, an actress of strong individual charm.

REVIVAL OF "RAFFLES."

Play, in Four Acts, by E. W. Hornung and Eugene Presbrey, Revived at the Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday, Dec. 23.

A. J. Raffles	Mr. Gerald du Maurier
The Earl of Amersteth	Mr. Lyston Lyle
Viscount Crowley	Mr. Frank Denton
Harry Manders	Mr. Guy Rathbone
Curtis Bedford	Mr. Jules Shaw
Merton	Mr. W. T. Lovell
Crawshay	Mr. Frank Royde
Goldby	Mr. F. J. Arlton
Barraclough	Mr. Howard Sturge
Lady Melrose	Miss Frances Wetherall
Lady Ethel	Miss Violet Eardley
Gwendolen Conran	Miss Kyrle Bellew
Marie	Miss Maud Buchanan
Mrs. Vidal	Miss Hilda Moore

"Raffles" is one of the few plays that bear the ordeal of revival in a way satisfactory to the box-office. The piece seems to possess a perennial freshness that renders a renewed acquaintance with the cricketer-burglar a delight. Among the round of visits to the theatres this Christmas season "Raffles" should certainly not be missed. Mr. Gerald du Maurier resumes his original rôle of "A. J.," and gives a clever and interesting embodiment of the part, making all the telling points with the ease and certainty of the actor of acknowledged ability and varied experience. The verdict of Wednesday night's audience was wholly favourable, and, judging by the loud applause, quite unanimous. And he had excellent support. Mr. Lyston Lyle, as the Earl of Amersteth, was the English country gentleman to the life, impatient and rather fussy, but preserving his dignity all the time. An admirable study of the American detective, Curtis Bedford, was submitted by Mr. Jules Shaw; Mr. Guy Rathbone did exceedingly well as Harry Manders, known amongst his intimates as "Bunny," and Mr. Frank Denton was natural and pleasing as young Viscount Crowley. Mr. Frank Royde deserves a word of praise for his neat sketch of the burglar Crawshay. Miss Kyrle Bellew was a charming representative of Gwendolen Conran; and Miss Hilda Moore was quite successful in her rendering of the character of Mrs. Vidal. Lady Melrose had a dignified exponent in Miss Frances Wetherall, whose daughter, Lady Ethel, was brightly embodied by Miss Violet Eardley. Miss Maud Buchanan was particularly good as the French maid, Marie. In minor rôles able assistance was given by Mr. W. T. Lovell as Merton, and Mr. F. J. Arlton as Goldby.

Copies of Mr. Harold Simpson's powerful poem, "Unconquerable," which is being recited with unqualified success by a great number of people, can be obtained from "The Era" office at 1d. each, the proceeds being divided between "The Era" War Distress Fund and the "Daily Telegraph" Shilling Fund for Belgium.

MISS NELLIE TAYLOR.

ACTRESS' SUCCESS AT DALY'S.

To advance within a comparatively brief period from the second row of the chorus to the position of one of the principals in the most popular musical comedy now running in Town, is an achievement which does not often happen in the ranks of musical comedy. The charming and attractive young actress, Miss Nellie Taylor, is therefore to be congratulated upon the well-deserved success she has secured upon taking up the part relinquished by Miss Winifred Barnes (who is now playing lead in Mr. George Edwardes' musical comedy, "Betty," produced last week at Manchester) in "The Country Girl" at Daly's.

Miss Nellie Taylor is a particularly merry soul, full of youthful enthusiasm and joie de vivre, and, withal, an alert mind directed towards "the things that matter"; and the fifteen minutes which an "Era" man spent one morning recently in the society of the vivacious young actress proved an excellent tonic for the aftermath which—sometimes—follows a plethora of Christmastide functions. Nellie pouted prettily as the ruthless writer unshackled his pen. "The penalty of success," he explained; and then his companion submitted uncomplainingly to the painless ordeal.

"A little over three years ago," commenced the clever young vocalist and dancer, "I was qualifying for the somewhat sombre livelihood of a typist, and had already secured a diploma for proficiency in shorthand. All the while I had strong leanings towards a stage career. I had been singing at local concerts (I am a native of Birmingham, you know), and my friends encouraged my idea. So I decided to 'try my luck.' I secured an introduction to Mr. Robert Courtneidge at the period when 'The Arcadians' was making such a great success. Mr. Courtneidge gave me a place in the chorus, and at the same time I understudied Miss Cicely Courtneidge as Eileen Cavenagh. Six weeks later my 'chance' came. Cicely Courtneidge happened to sprain her ankle slightly, and I took her part. I was told I did so most successfully. I suppose this was the case, for later on I went on two tours in the same part. Upon my return to the Shaftesbury

MISS NELLIE TAYLOR.

Theatre I played Miyo Ko San in 'The Mousmé.' Then I went on tour in the same part.

"During the following two and a-half years I was playing principal parts in musical comedy both on tour and in London. Then in December last I sought a change, and appeared as principal girl in the pantomime 'Robinson Crusoe' at the Princes Theatre, Bristol. Oh, yes, I liked this new experience very much. But when I may next appear in pantomime my ambition is to appear as principal boy. There's more scope afforded to show what one can do, you know.

Then I returned to my first love, musical comedy, taking, a week after finishing in pantomime, Sari Petrass' part of Mariposa in 'The Marriage Market' at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne. At the conclusion of that tour — which was a somewhat long one—I quickly commenced a second tour in the same play, and now I am under Mr. George Edwardes' banner, and ever so happy and contented at Daly's in 'The Country Girl.'

"Any novel experiences while on tour? I can relate to you one at least which furnished me with a very useful lesson. I had arrived at (Ah! the Censor!)— and was advised to seek apartments in — Street. Mrs. — rooms appeared to me to be of the kind where the comfort of her visitors was the last thing thought of. There was only one decent room in the house. That was the bath-room—which nobody apparently used. Being aware that a member of the company was visiting the town the following week I penned her a (I had hoped) discreetly-phrased, and at least kindly intentioned, note warning her against these particular apartments. I then sent a somewhat similar note—and still animated by kind intentions—to our stage manager, asking him to place a warning upon the call-board. Unfortunately—most! (and while I was still at the house) my landlady was shown one of these letters, and—then there were pyrotechnics! Letters from lawyers followed, and I was threatened with an action for untold damages. In the end—but not before much that was unpleasant had happened—serenity reigned; and all because," laughed the actress, "I wanted to do an act of kindness. I think you will quite understand the exact lesson it taught me!"

"DAVID COPPERFIELD."

Play, in Four Acts, by Louis N. Parker, Produced at His Majesty's Theatre, Thursday, Dec. 24

Wilkins Micawber	Sir Herbert Tree
David Copperfield	Mr. Owen Nares
James Steerforth	Mr. Basil Gill
Tommy Traddles	Mr. Deering Wells
Uriah Heep	Mr. Charles Quartermaine
Dan'l Peggotty	Sir Herbert Tree
Ham	Mr. Frederick Ross
Mr. Dick	Mr. Nigel Playfair
Littimer	Mr. W. Gayer Mackay
A Waiter	Mr. Roy Byford
First Old Fogey	Mr. J. William Mollison
Second Old Fogey	Mr. Henry Byatt
Third Old Fogey	Mr. Julian Cross
A Sailor	Mr. W. J. Kemp
Agnes Wickfield	Miss Evelyn Millard
Little Em'ly	Miss Jessie Winter
Betsey Trotwood	Miss Agnes Thomas
Mrs. Micawber	Miss Sydney Fairbrother
Clara Peggotty	Miss Mary Brough
Mrs. Gummidge	Miss Ada King
Mrs. Heep	Miss Rosamund Mayne-Young
Martha Endell	Miss Mary Clare
Mrs. Crupp	Miss Stella St. Audrie
The Young Gal	Miss Sybil Sparkes
Janet	Miss Maude Phillips

Each fresh attempt to make into a play any one of the immortal novels of Charles Dickens brings with it fresh realisation of the enormous difficulties of the task. Certain characters must of necessity be omitted, and the omission must, of necessity, be regretted. To weave a definite, coherent plot from the material at hand around a couple of dozen of the principal personages in "David Copperfield," so that each is an indispensable link in the story set forth, is an impossibility. Again, the portrayal of characters that are, at least to the elder generation, lifelong friends, arouses intense interest certainly, but also criticism so keen that it is ready to be unduly biased by the slightest deviation from a preconceived ideal.

The characters that have been given chief prominence in Mr. Louis N. Parker's dramatisation of "David Copperfield," produced on Christmas Eve by Sir Herbert Tree at His Majesty's Theatre, are David Copperfield, Wilkins Micawber, Dan'l Peggotty, and Uriah Heep, and the story is of the affection between David and Dan'l, both in the happy days at Yarmouth, and after the flight of little Em'ly, and also of the friendship of David and Micawber and the unmasking of the "Heep of infamy." Of the pathetic little figure of David's "child-wife," Dora, we see nothing, and the few references that are made to her are unconvincing, and would be better omitted altogether. Steerforth and little Em'ly are but lightly sketched in, and were it not for the enormous forcefulness of Mr. Frederick Ross's personality, Ham would be more or less an insignificant character. Rose Dartle is also omitted, while the sinister Littimer and the depressing Martha Endell are only intelligible to those who have already met them in the book. The production is as marvellous as we always expect it to be at His Majesty's, and the various scenes, particularly Betsey Trotwood's garden at Dover, the dining-room at the Golden Cross, Peggotty's Boat house, Wickfield's garden at Canterbury, and the remarkable shipwreck scene, evoked tremendous enthusiasm.

It is futile to attempt to tell the story as given by Mr. Parker, it would become merely a description of characters as we have visualised them, and as they are set forth by the actors. The best knit portions of the play are those that take place (1) in the dining-room at the Golden Cross, (2) Wickfield's garden at Canterbury, and (3) Uriah Heep's office.

In (1) we see David and Steerforth meeting for the first time for many years. Before the advent of the magnificent Steerforth, David has been treated as a negligible quantity by the fruity old waiter George, who has already reduced poor Tommy Traddles to mere nothingness. Here we get the real Dickens atmosphere with the First Old Fogey grumbling about the wine and the food, and the Second Old Fogey sending rude messages to the other diners, and the Third Old Fogey glaring at everything and everybody. The arrival of the easy, graceful Steerforth and his recognition of David makes the fruity George cringe where before he had blustered. We see David subjugated once again by the charm of his old schoolmate, and here they arrange the visit to Peggotty's Boat house that is to bring so much unhappiness excellent scene, first b in which she discloses her father and her di secondly, between Davi its intensity, splendidly its effect. (3) is the Micawber, theatrical, superb in the knowledg veils the infamy of He assembled. It is real an exception, the char to our ideals.

It is in this last sce rises to the magnificent his performance hints t the preoccupation, insep mière, is removed, and time to accustom himse mendous effort of the do is splendid, the make- of all Sir Herbert Tree bald head, bulbous hat, trousers, showing an ex and shabby finery of co every bit Wilkins M twinkles, affectations, as bined. Sir Herbert Tree's stuff, in some places ver not reach the level of his

There are three other p out as exceptional, the Charles Quartermaine, a b the Mr. Dick of Nigel Play simple, exactly as we have and the Mrs. Gummidge o perfect picture of the "lone her incessant low spirits heart. Miss Agnes Thoma as Betsey Trotwood, but is of asperity that we associat Mr. Owen Nares is as good a ever hope to see, and as Gi Gill is a handsome, gallant figu exactly the right touch of Evelyn Millard is a very delig Agnes, but she is not the calm, we have known; she is too vivi Millard's Agnes would never would have taken vigorous ac of the pestilential Heep. Miss prettiest little Em'ly, but she suggestion of defiance, very consistent with a "fallen si Mr. Shaw than as a Dickens We have already referred to Mr. Frederick Ross gets into Ham. Miss Sydney Fairbrother Dickensian as Mrs. Micawber, a of "The dashing white sergeant comedy. Mention should also be mad Peggotty of Miss Mary Brough Heep of Miss Rosamund Mayne-You conclusion of the last act, in which makes a resplendent and welcome warranted reappearance, the ent glasses in hand, sang a verse o syne."

MR. F. R. BENSON AN IN "HENRY

Shaftesbury Theatre, Saturday

Chorus	Mr.
King Henry V.	Mr. F.
Duke of Gloucester	Mr. Grosve
Duke of Bedford	Mr. Lancel
Duke of Exeter	Mr. Moffat
Earl of Westmoreland	Mr. Reginal
The Archbishop of Canterbury	Mr. Frank
Bishop of Ely	
Earl of Cambridge	Mr
Lord Scroop	Mr
Sir Thomas Grey	Mr.
Gower	Mr.
Sir Thomas Erpingham	M
Fluellen	
Macmorris	Mr
John Bates	M.
Michael Williams	Mr
Pistol	Mr.
Nym	Mr. H
Bardolph	Mr.
Boy	Miss
English Herald	Miss M
Charles VI.	Mr. E. Ha
Louis	Mr.
Duke of Orleans	Mr. Darby
The Constable of France	Mr. Charles
Montjoy	Mr. Charles War
French Prisoner	Mr. H. O. Nic
French Page	Miss Alice d
A Camp Follower	Miss Leah I
A Camp Follower	Mr. Frank Coc
Isabel	Miss Evelyn
Katharine	Miss Jean Stirling Mackl
Alice	Miss Elinor
Hostess	Miss Rose M

It is a very great pleasure, th we hope shared by many these Christ holida after, to have the opportunity o on in London that fine Shakespeare Mr. Benson, and his talented comp Mr. opened his season at the Shafte Theat the afternoon of Boxing Day wi Hen a play singularly well adapted times with its dominant martial no patriotic spirit. Where is a bet speech to be found than in the w

"O for honour of our land
Let us not hang like ragin
Upon our houses' thatch,
Whiles a more frosty peop
Sweat drops of gallant yo

It is a very dignified, intellect of "Henry V." that Mr. Benson are presenting at the Shaftesbu many ways, for feeling, for loy playwright, and for the most that can be heard anywhere to-d sion Mr. Benson has surrounde again with many old Bensonians names for themselves since t famous company—Mr. Otho Stua absent through sudden indisposi afternoon, thus necessitating the beautiful words of the Chorus), Mr liams, Mr. Lyall Swete, and others

Mr. Benson's Henry V. is a sistent piece of work, an entire kingly dignity to the impetuous Lewis Waller's well-known impers mad King of France, Charles V court Williams is remarkably clev horrible at the same time. Mr. admirable as the soldier, has Mr. A. E. George is a delightfu Baliol Holloway's Pistol is rich i the Bardolph of Mr. A. B. Imeson Mr. H. O. Nicholson are both exc true Shakespearean humour. Th lords are very well played by Mess ship, Leonard Parish, and Reg Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay is charming Katharine, and a very sensation is the Hostess of Miss R good is the all-round acting that really deserves special mention. though not excessive, is good and the whole production reflects the h Mr. Benson. We wish his Lond success it deserves.

Y GOSSIP

he sudden indisposition of cessitating an immediate t, she was unable to com- at the Palace Theatre last Levey came to the rescue. sing favourably.

Mr. Willie Frame, who Hicks's concert party in following wire:—"Four zens in City Hall ask you wishes to our brave boys or, chairman."

een seriously ill, and must hear of this gifted gentle- and wish him a speedy

ocq, of 19 to 21, Oxendon- leaving with his regiment has appointed Mr. Clifford his representative during

above Leon, who is appearing in ance Empire, informs us that her Roker, the well-known ballet ently went to Berlin to fulfil his engagement at the Metropole ow interned in the stables of andau as a prisoner of war.

hatt is presenting that remark- t love interest or a woman d "The New Sin," by B. astings, at the Hippodrome, n Jan. 4, and at the Hippo- on Jan. 11. The cast in- H. Lane Bayliff, Goodwin Nock, s, Grahame Herington, Kenneth Greaves, and George Martin.

rt which was to have been given and convalescent soldiers at Bou- mas Eve did not take place. One about military reasons; but it is t the situation at the front will at the offer of Miss Marie Lloyd, rchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Daisie Belloninis, Miss Flora Cromer, and orworth to cross the Channel to do to cheer up our soldiers will be

11 Mr. Stephen Adeson, in trying to motor-bus at Kennington about 9 p.m., d in falling had the great misfortune left leg in two places, and is now at s Hospital for treatment. It may ths before he is able to walk pro- ew of the great amount of work ken at the hospital through the dvisable for friends to visit him the same time letters may be sent

Bransby Williams is the latest acquisition cast of "The Passing Show" at the here he has all the requisite opportuni- owing his versatility. In his one-man he introduces many imitations that happily conceived and humorous; and juvenile or in the World's Bazaar he is

nd several fresh interludes have George Bull and Maurice Volny, musical score has been introduced important compositions by Her- list of principals still includes e Brogden as Kitty O'Hara, Mr. is all sorts of people, Mr. Basil a new song at present named "At Filbert the Filbert, and Mr. Lewis rious rôles. "The Passing Show" been submitted to a drastic process

uke Michael, who has arranged matinée at the Alhambra, on of his Mitten and Glove Fund diers, has most generously ex- that half of the proceeds shall e theatrical and variety charities, Benevolent Fund and the Benevolent Fund. The commit- extend deepest thanks to his his kindly thought of the per- are doing everything possible to ensure a brilliant success.

the wishes of several managers deferent patrons, Leo Dryden has revived his India's reply," the song that years ago the splendid loyalty India to the British Empire. His "Remember Louvain," has been enthusiastic reception.

Lester has added another character increasing repertory, and there is little Longshoreman Bill will meet with as as the Restaurant Waiter, the Scene- Fireman. There is a touch of the humour in the new sketch, which advantage.

of Mme. Yavorska's new sketch, Russia," which she is producing m next week, is laid in 1812, the w. It may be imagined that the itself to strong situations closely ith the feelings that now animate me. Yavorska will play a breeches in which she has appeared on the It is interesting to recall the she had in a similar part in L'Aiglon."

a Kyasht, on the occasion of her nce in this country prior to leaving join her husband, Captain Ragosin, a rousing ovation at the Coliseum evening, and was the recipient of a ket of lillies, after several calls be- in. Before departing, she expressed presentative the hope that the British not forget her appeal for tobacco an troops, and explained that further whether in money or kind, could ressed to her at the stage door at . Amongst those who witnessed her on Saturday night were the Russian and the Earl of Lonsdale.

Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, opened Day to packed houses, under entirely ment. Mr. Pareezer has transferred the house to the new proprietor, Cooper, who already has two fine es in the same town, with various t enterprises at Wisbech, Norwich, nd other towns. The new manager

The Carons, eight lady acrobats from Belgium, are making their first appearance in London at the Victoria Palace. These handsome, well-trained, and accomplished girls are creating something of a sensation by their beauty, athletic grace, and novel posing. There is an unmistakable cachet about the show that should make it attractive at any hall.

Owing to the congested traffic Cliff Berzac was delayed in arriving at the Hippodrome, Southend, for last Saturday's matinée. Mr. Bert Williams, the ventriloquist, stepped into the breach and acted as ring-master until Mr. Berzac's arrival. The well-known bucking mule appeared to resent the change, as he assisted Mr. Williams off the stage no fewer than four times during his short stay.

Mr. W. Dines, the resident manager of the Agricultural Hall Cinema, Wolverhampton, who has made himself very popular with his patrons and staff, was on Christmas Eve presented by the latter with a handsome black marble timepiece as a mark of their appreciation.

Mr. William Baldwin, assistant manager of the Devonport Hippodrome, has severed his connection therewith and has been succeeded by Mr. William Harley, who has been associated with Devonport for nearly two years, having previously been manager of the Metropole, Devonport.

With the proceeds of two patriotic concerts recently given at the Bradford Empire Mr. Percy Craig, the manager, has purchased 3,000 oval brass tobacco boxes, which are to be presented to the Bradford Territorials, infantry and artillery. Mr. Craig is appealing for further funds with which to fill the boxes with either tobacco or sweets. The boxes bear the city's coat-of-arms, with an inscription, "In Honour of Bradford Territorials, 1914-15," in enamel.

By the courtesy of Mr. Walter de Frece and the kindness of Mr. Alex. Galley, some 1,500 children, sons and daughters of those who are serving their King and country, and in, unfortunately, some cases those who have not done so, visited the Wolverhampton Empire, and had, if only for two short hours, all care and sorrow banished from their little minds. On entering each child was presented with a bag containing all sorts of good things in the way of comestibles.

After all were safely ensconced in their seats—no small matter—the orchestra struck up "Tipperary," which, needless to say, was taken up with much gusto by those 1,500 pair of young lungs. A capital entertainment was provided for the youngsters, the chief item in which was Cruikshank, "the fool of the family," who exerted himself to his utmost to please the kiddies. On leaving the hall each child was presented with a suitable toy.

When it is known that Mr. Galley and his stage manager, electrician, and clerk put up over 1,500 bags, each containing seven different articles, although it was a labour of love, it entailed a large amount of overtime in this the busiest season of the theatrical profession.

Mr. A. G. Spry, who is now playing Buttons in "Cinderella" at the County Theatre, Reading, has been three times round the world on tour, under Mr. Harry Rickards and Sydney Hyman management, and has reached the springs of mirth in every clime.

A merry party of some 200 friends of the management assembled in the Empire and Hippodrome, Bristol, after the second performance on Christmas Eve, and had a most enjoyable time, the occasion being a presentation to the genial manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.

Miss Kitty Colyer (Mrs. Harry Day, who is principal lady in "Passing Events") presided, and in a few felicitous remarks said she always looked forward with pleasure to her visit to the Empire, as she seemed to have so many friends there.

She had great pleasure in handing Mr. Macaire a cheque from Mr. Day, another from Mr. Gridley, a massive silver inkstand from Mr. George Langfield, a casket of chocolate de luxe (for Mrs. Macaire) from Messrs. Fry, and a solid silver tea and coffee service from members of the Empire staff and several outside close friends.

Mr. Macaire acknowledged the gifts in a feeling manner, thanking Miss Colyer and all friends for their gracious and kindly thoughts. He hoped that all would meet together again next Christmas Eve. A short concert followed.

Little Vera de Mersden, who is dancing so delightfully at the London Opera House in the pantomime "Aladdin," should certainly have her name printed on the programme. The little girl has quality, freshness, much command of expression, charm, and a technique far beyond many prima ballerina double her age.

Aladdin is a part that has established the reputation of many a comedienne, and in the case of Miss Mona Magnet, who is playing the rôle of the Gamin of Pekin at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, is likely to follow historic precedent. She has a fascinating style and a sense of humour that is such an asset in a rôle that lends itself so completely to "divarshun." Brum has taken Mona Magnet to its heart.

"Frivolity Freear," whose one-man entertainment has often amused Bombay people, was in that city on Nov. 26, and sailed a day or two afterwards for England by the Kaiser-i-Hind. He will return in February to fulfil return dates in India and the Far East, and will appear in Bombay some time in March.

Freear recently appeared before H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, who made him a present of Rs. 1,000; before the Nizam, who presented him with a handsome diamond pin; and the Thakore Sahib of Limbdi, who presented to him a gold watch, a diamond and ruby necklace, and a ring.

Miss Elise Malpass, who is enjoying her third year's experience in pantomime, is the youngest principal girl playing in first class pantomime. Two years ago she was Cherry (second girl) at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, and in 1913-1914 she played Pansy at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, in "Humpty Dumpty," scoring so great a success that Mr. John Hart booked her as principal girl, Alice, in his production at Sheffield Theatre Royal, "Dick Whittington and His Cat."

The Two McLloyds (Maude and Sydney) have terminated a 53 weeks' tour with "What Ho, Tango!" (revue), and are re-engaged by the same management for their pantomime, "Jack and Jill," at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich. Their biggest hits are "Love me while the loving is good," and their eccentric dancing act. Miss McLloyd assisted Miss Pasionek at the County Theatre, Shrewsbury, last week, when the sum of £7 6s. 11d. was collected for "The Era" Cigarette Fund.

Trooper T. E. Scarisbrick, for many years advance manager for Mr. F. R. Benson, and later manager for Mr. Carl Hertz, writes from France:—"So far things have been going great, and I still have a whole skin, but don't like 'Jack Johnsons' at all.

"We have now just come back 20 miles from the firing-line, and hope to get a rest until after Christmas, as we are stopping in a farm, and it is a great place. Have just got dinner finished. I cooked for six—two officers, two corporal-majors, another fellow, and myself—Irish stew with dumplings, plain pudding, and coffee. We have done ourselves well.

"I am now a full Lifeguardsman, having been transferred to them. Can you imagine me doing duty in Whitehall in a tin chest when I get home? They are looking after us splendidly, as much and more than we can eat, and plenty of cigarettes now of all sorts.

"The weather has been too awful for words—nothing but rain all the time, and mud up to our necks. So far have not done much fighting, but quite enough to go on with; expect to get a great deal more before we finish.

"The airships are all over the place; also 'planes. The German bounders dropped bombs over us last Sunday and killed 14.

"We are not allow to say much in our letters, as they are all censored, so cannot tell the tale too much. They are a fine lot of chaps in the regiment, but it is funny to see us on parade—a 6ft. 3in. man with a 5ft. nothing beside him."

We should explain that Mr. Scarisbrick on his enlistment joined the 3rd Hussars, and has now been transferred to the Life Guards.

Mr. James Stewart, the piano tramp, was specially engaged, through Ashton's Royal Agency, to give his performance before her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough at her house party at Sunderland House, Curzon-street, Mayfair, W., on Christmas night.

At the Tottenham Palace for some years past Christmas week has always seen a panto. holding sway. This year, however, "Potash and Perlmutter" is being presented, and, judging by the applause and laughter of crowded houses, the proprietors have shown much wisdom in making the change.

The refined musical act of the Sisters Webb (daughters of Mr. Jo Jo Webb, the famous musical clown) is winning golden opinions on their tour in the West country. Their patriotic selections on concertinas were highly relished by the men of Kitchener's Army billeted in large numbers at Weston-super-Mare, where the young artistes became extremely popular.

Miss Helena Millais, in "Silver Creek," is making her third visit to the Olympia, Shoreditch, this week, in less than two years. "Silver Creek" registers its 1,090th performance this week, and is going as well as ever. The company should be at Islington next week.

The Fortune and Granville Combination, which is entertaining large houses at the Golders Green Empire this week, includes the following artistes:—G. H. Elliott, Emilie Hayes, Rosie Archer, the Majors, Bedini and Bedini, Les Marignys, Henri Cazman, Fred Curran, and Victoria Monks.

Mr. T. E. Dunville has opened on the Gulliver Circuit, and will continue to delight audiences at those popular houses for the next 18 weeks. His new songs include "The barber," "Flats and Houses," and "Here's where you want it."

For assisting cases through the distress of war, the Music Hall Ladies' Guild Committee has received on account the sum of £53 through the Professional Classes branch of the National Relief Fund (per Mr. Beresford).

On board the "Lilanstephan Castle" a collection was made, and the Guild has received through Captain Chope the sum of £11 15s. The committee also acknowledge with thanks a grant of £1 1s. from the offertories of St. Katharine's Royal Chapel, Regent's Park, W., through Canon H. B. Ottley (per Mrs. Chas. Coborn).

Mr. J. P. Mitchelhill, co-proprietor of Collins's, Islington Green, kindly granted the use of the hall for the annual distribution of Christmas dinners for the poor of the borough, organised by the editor of the "Islington Daily Gazette," assisted by a local committee. The distribution took place on Christmas Eve, Ald. G. S. Elliott, the Mayor, giving personal assistance. To some of the children who came from a distance, Mr. Mitchellhill gave their return fare.

Thornley Dodge probably was the most strenuously worked artiste appearing in London last week. In addition to the week's booking at the Chelsea Palace, he appeared at the Victoria Palace, the Pavilion, and the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, and scored an undeniable success all round. On Christmas Day he travelled to Manchester to sing for the wounded soldiers in the New Bridge-street Hospital, and returned the same evening to town. A good week's work.

Mr. B. P. Earle, eccentric comedian, met with a serious accident last Tuesday (23rd), when completing his "turn" in the first house at the Royal Hippodrome, Dover. When engaged in an eccentric dance he sustained a serious injury to his left ankle. Dr. W. J. D. Best, who was called in, found that he had fractured his ankle. The next day the injured limb was put into plaster of paris and splints, but it was found necessary to remove him to hospital for an operation after the expiration of a few days. He was brought to London for that purpose at the end of the week by his wife (Miss Billie Berle), who was also appearing as a male impersonator.

Mr. Myron M. Gilday writes from the Palace, Grimsby:—"The most human, generous, and patriotic action was done by the directors and Mr. Verner Walford (general manager for the Doncaster and Grimsby Palaces, Ltd.) by refunding to the entire staff and orchestra at both theatres the 20 per cent. reduction of salaries for the past 16 weeks. What a joy that must have brought to the families of those whose salaries are small for the amount of work they do! If we had more men who put sentiment before dividends, what a glorious thing our profession would be! My sincere wish to the managing directors and Mr. Walford that in all their future undertakings may their lives be as happy and bright as the homes of the families they have cheered this Christmastide! I am also happy to state that, although the past week is acknowledged to be the worst in the year, we received 28 per cent. above our salaries."

THE PILGRIM.

["The Era" has a larger circulation than that of any other theatrical or variety journal published in the United Kingdom.]

R. G. KNOWLES—LECTURER.

From the time when Mr. R. G. Knowles made his first appearance at the old Trocadero Music Hall in the early nineties, he has most emphatically belonged to England. London variety lovers found his wit and humour inspired with a rare freshness and took him straight to their hearts. On Boxing Day he entered upon a new phase of his career—that is, as far as his English experiences are concerned—and while happily reminding us of the old Knowles, presented to us a new Knowles, a combination of the shrewd, alert traveller, the incorrigible laughter-maker, the philosopher of kindly, human sympathies. Mr. Knowles calls his lecture "Little journeys to great places," and the great place he talks about is "Imperial India." He knows his subject well. For years he has wandered the length and breadth of the Peninsula, and he showed her to us with an illuminating completeness. With his witty, discursive, incisive remarks and asides, he brought the life of her 300 millions before us, their laughter, their tears, their toil, and bound up with all the rest, their world-old religious mysticism, so vital to them, so incomprehensible to us. In one phrase Mr. Knowles makes us realise the actual conditions in India. "A land of feast and famine. And this would be all right if the same people fasted at one time and feasted at another. But, those who feast, feast all the time, and those who fast, fast all the time." And with him we sounded both the highest and lowest notes of the scale in the magnificent pageantry of the Durbar of princes and maharajahs at Delhi, and the bitter indigence of the hut of the poorest fisherman.

He began the journey in Ceylon, with its groves of palms, its cinnamon gardens, its mountains, jewel mines and markets, and then crossed to the main-land to Madura with her ancient temples—"before Greece was, when Rome was a hamlet, and Tyre was colonising, India's temples stood, monuments of the finest builders the world has ever known"—to Trichinopoly, to Goa, with its white heaps of salt evaporated from seawater, northwards to Bombay, Jeypore, and the ruins of Amber in the mountains; to Cawnpore and Delhi, where, in the pictures of the Cashmere Gate, are to be seen the holes made by the cannon-shot of the Mutiny. And here the lecturer reminds us that times have changed, that loyalty is India's watchword, and that the same men who pass before us in the imposing Durbar procession are now fighting side by side with us in France. It was at Delhi that Mr. Knowles, in his search for Durbar pictures, met Mr. Charles Urban, intent on material for his Kinemacolor process, and the two formed a compact of which the present series of travel-lectures is the outcome. The moving pictures now shown are certainly miracles of the art of stereoscopic kinematography, reproducing not only the vivid gorgeous colours of the East, but conveying some impression, at least, of the burning, breathless heat of the Indian sun. It is a sufficiently astounding fact that the outlay for the material, pictures (still and moving), costumes, curios, assembled at the Philharmonic Hall represents the sum of over £20,000 (twenty thousand pounds). And it was at Delhi, by the way, that Mr. Knowles met the Tommy from the Emerald Isle, alighting from a train packed to its utmost capacity with all sorts and conditions of natives and whites, which had brought him many a mile clinging to the footboard with teeth and nails. Mr. Knowles asked him how he did. "Me health is first-class," said Pat, "me ticket is third, but the accommodation's no class at all!"

Southwards we journey to Agra and its busy scenes of street life, to Calcutta, with its great bridge and hurrying multitudes, the Hugli crowded with multifarious shipping; to the top of the world, the mountains of Himalaya, to the city of 15,000 temples, holy Benares, so holy that the man who dies within a radius of eight miles from her walls goes straight away to Paradise. "They say, see Naples and die," comments Mr. Knowles, "but it doesn't say where you go to afterwards. Now I say, see Benares and die—quick—look at the reward you get. And as for the smells," he adds, thoughtfully reminiscent, "well—it's a dead heat, anyway."

During the interval Mrs. Knowles introduces a priceless collection of Eastern costumes, some of which, Mr. Knowles remarks, should come under the head of loot. Notably a robe, which belonged to the late Empress of China. It was stolen from the house of the Governor-General in Jerusalem some 700 years ago—a fact which establishes an alibi as far as the genial lecturer is concerned!

Altogether the entertainment at the Philharmonic Hall should offer great attractions for a considerable time to come.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' GUILD.

3, Newport House, Gre at Newport Street.

The following donations have been received:—Mr. Frank Allen, £1 1s.; Mrs. Coram, £1 1s. and boxes of handkerchiefs, dolls and candles from her little daughters; Miss Marie Kendall, £1 1s.; Miss Carrie Anderson, 5s.; Mrs. Fruin, 2s.; Mrs. Nance Pounds, 2s. 6d.; Miss Carrie Lauri, 5s. and useful clothing; Mr. Eric Morton, 1s. 6d.; Anonymous, 5s. and 2s. The following was collected by Mrs. Millis:—Miss Gertie Gitana, £1; Mr. Lyn Harding, 5s.; Mr. Dennis Creedon, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Stanley Brett, 1s.; Mr. Simpson, 1s.; Mr. Vincent Hill, 1s.; Mrs. Escott, 2s. 6d. (per Miss Lottie Albert), Mr. Forest Tell, 5s. (per The Sisters Macarte).

Mrs. Alfred Butt is thanked for a large box of brand new clothing and promise of more. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Vento, new underwear, handkerchiefs, socks, and a parcel of dresses; Little Maudie Winston (per Miss Hilda Elen), hand-knitted vests; Sisters Macarte, clothing; Mrs. Kittie Carson (founder of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild), boxes of brooches and cards; Mrs. Anders, dolls and Santa Claus stockings; Mrs. G. H. Chirgwin, boxes of toys. We trust no one has been forgotten who helped to make the function such a success. The committee desire to thank Mr. Joseph Sams, proprietor Horns Hotel, for his excellent catering.

Mr. Matthew Boulton's new comedy sketch, "His Rest Day," scored an immediate success on its production at the Shepherd's Bush Empire recently. This week it is being played at the London Coliseum.

THE ALHAMBRA.

It is evident that the Christmas of 1914 cannot under present circumstances be a very merry one, but the Alhambra management have undoubtedly done their best in the cause of merriment by the introduction of a burlesque pantomime into the revue, "Everything New? Not Likely!" Robinson Crusoe is the hero of the Alhambra Christmas piece, which is by Mr. Robert Hale, and the story of his adventures is told in six scenes, opening with "Davy Jones's Locker" under the Thames, and concluding with "The Cannibal Island," which, according to the programme, "was especially discovered for this production by Theodore Roosevelt." The customary scene of Crusoe's triumphant return to his native land is, it will be noted, omitted; but of necessity something had to be left out of a pantomime which lasts only an hour. There are, however, a Demon King and a Good Fairy, between whom there is the usual contest for supremacy, the last mentioned, of course, getting the upper hand before the end comes.

The old custom of the first boy being represented by a member of the fair sex has not always been observed of late years, but another innovation is to be noted in the Alhambra production. Mr. Robert Hale, who plays the part of Robinson, has been bold enough to make fun of the principal boy. He introduces us to a very stout representative of Crusoe, and none of the familiar characteristics of the original seem to have escaped his observant eye, with the result that we find ourselves laughing heartily at a delightfully humorous burlesque performance. At a critical moment it is the practice of the principal boy to sing a song, and thus when Friday is in danger of being burnt to death Robinson, before going to the rescue, gets off a ballad of the usual type. Another highly amusing piece of business is Mr. Hale's impersonation of the Fairy whose singing is subjected to various noisy interruptions of a very disconcerting character.

Miss Phyllis Monkman is a vivacious and attractive Polly. Mr. Jack Robinson, as the wicked Will Atkins, scores all the time, and Mr. Alfred Austin is a capital Mrs. Crusoe, with the catch-phrase, "Has anyone been asking for me?" Mr. Leslie does well as Billy Crusoe; Mr. Lynch makes a sufficiently sardonic Demon King, and Miss De Bausche is charming as the Good Fairy. Miss Mercer as Captain Capstan, and Miss M. Wollaston as his Louisa, his girl, and other "boys" were represented by the Misses Graham, Gwynne, Jarman, Ashton, Thorpe, and Sullivan. Mr. Stuart was an excellent Friday, and Mr. Sims as the Cannibal King, Mr. Kaufman as the Goat, Mr. Nagh as the Monkey, Miss Barrett as the Parrot, and Mr. Desmond as the Lightning King all rendered noteworthy assistance.

BENEFICENT ORDER OF TERRIERS.

Applications for membership have been received from Jack Butt and Leslie Digby, first notice; Jack Anders, George Lawrence, George Relwyskow and Dockstaker, third notice; Arthur Fortune, Will Fortune and Mark Lupino, final notice.

At the meeting on Sunday last Terrier Bert Marsden acted as W.I., Terrier Will Norrie as W.D., and Terrier Harry Moore as Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Harry Gribben, Bert Marsden, George Wisdom, Harry Cartwright, and Billy Fauder.

The election of officers for January, 1915, has resulted as follows:—W.T., Terrier Harry Gribben; V.T., Terrier Will Norrie; Organist, Terrier Arthur Were. Terrier Bruce Green has been presented with P.W.T. Jewel for services rendered.

All resolutions intended for discussion at the annual general meeting, to be held on Jan. 17, 1915, must be forwarded to the secretary on or before the 2nd proximo. The initiation of Mr. Jim C. Max will be held on Sunday next. Terriers are requested to obtain photographs of candidates whom they nominate.

"THE SPRING LOCK."

Duologue, Produced at the Bedford on Dec. 22.
Jack Helling .....Mr. Ivan Cleveland
Molly Sportington .....Miss Gladys Vernon

Owing to a little discussion with the Lord Chamberlain on the ethics of disrobing, this bright little comedy duologue was unable to be presented at the Bedford until the Tuesday night of last week. It is a cheery trifle, and met with a hearty reception. The curtain rises on Jack's bedroom at an hotel where there is a big dance taking place. There dashes in a pierette, who, after slamming the door, finds to her horror she is in the wrong room, and is unable to reopen the door. A quick survey of the surroundings show her that she is in a man's room, and she decides to don his pyjamas and pretend to be asleep in the chair when he returns—as he does very soon. His astonishment, of course, is also great, but his delight is greater when he finds that the pierette is the lady to whom he has been endeavouring to get an introduction all the evening. He pretends to take her for a young man, and plies her with cigarettes and whisky. After a little while explanations are made, and, needless to say, an engagement is announced before the fall of the curtain.

Miss Gladys Vernon—who is well known as Wally in "Two Little Vagabonds"—played Molly in a very enticing manner; while Mr. Ivan Cleveland enacted Jack in an easy and cheery way quite suitable to the character.

Miss Dinkie Jeune, who is at Barnard's, Woolwich, this week, is making a special and interesting feature of her quick transitions from light comedy to more serious dramatic work.

Mr. J. Brandon Phillips, late of D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., and who appeared successfully at many London halls, is scoring with excellent results in and around Salt Lake City, in "The Chimes of Normandy" ("Les Cloches de Corneville"). His wife (Constance) and daughter (Edith) are also in the cast.

Canon H. B. Ottley, of St. Katherine's Royal Chapel, Regent's Park, has learned from Mrs. Coborn something of the beneficent work among poor professionals carried out by the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and, recognising its usefulness, has sent to that lady a small donation from his church offertory, which she desires to acknowledge in these columns.

THE VARIETY ARTISTES' EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND.

Rooms 32-33,
18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

The Committee acknowledges, with pleasure and gratitude, generous gifts and donations and help in many ways from:—

MRS. TOM PETLEY.
MISS EVELYN BERESFORD.
MISS ELSIE STEADMAN.
MISS CASSIE WALMER.
MISS LESTA LOWE.
MISS E. MORTIMER.
MR. HYMACK (NEW YORK).
MR. HORACE HUNTER.
CEDAR AND ELGAR.
MR. ERIC MARCHANT.

It is most earnestly requested that those ladies and gentlemen who still have collecting cards will return the counterfoils to the Hon. Sec. at the above address within the next few days.

Gifts of warm clothing and invalid foods are urgently needed, and if sent to these offices will be thankfully received and gratefully acknowledged.

The Committee wishes to thank, most sincerely, all those ladies and gentlemen who have supported the Fund so generously during the past four months, and hopes that efforts on behalf of the wives and children will not be relaxed during the New Year, as there is acute distress, and in many cases severe illness, to contend with. The more support this Committee receives the more it is able to do for the sick and suffering.

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MERRY WEDDING BELLS.
I WANT TO GO BACK TO MICHIGAN.
MY LITTLE COTTAGE.
ALGERNON, GO HON!
IT'S A LONG WAY TO TIPPERARY.

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KISS ME GOOD-BYE, SOLDIER BOY.
THE HONEYMOON TRAIN.
THE WEDDING OF THE JOY-RIDE GIRL.
I'D LIKE TO BE A ——
YOU'VE GOT ME AND I'VE GOT YOU.
HERE'S TO YOU, HERE'S TO ME.
SAMMY, COME OVER HERE.

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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., the Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—This week and three matinées: "Jack and Jill," produced by Mr. Tom B. Davis.—The company includes: Messrs. Edmond Russell, Charles E. Paton, Eric O'Mara, Harold Fish, A. H. Reid, Frank E. Melville, Forde Roberts, Misses Connie Emerald, Kathleen Gordon, Eva Dale, Josephine Horton, Irene Pascova.

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): The Subell Trio, in musical scena; the Four Holloways, comedy acrobats and cyclists on the wire; Clarke and Grenville, comedy duo; Sadus, comedy juggler; Percy Curry, eccentric comedian; Will H. Fox, in original musical medley; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Durward Lely and John Clyde in "The Bonnie Briar Bush," supported by Miss Mabel Balfour, Mrs. Durward Lely, and Messrs. Glyn Ardle and McIntosh Clyde; Little Sitz, comedian; Tyson and Gibb, eccentric comedians; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: F. V. St. Clair, popular vocalist; George E. Carnell, light comedian; Bosco, phenomenal bass vocalist; Carson and Bryan, comedy duo; the Fouritts, vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. John F. Sutcliffe; R. M., Mr. Alan Farman.—The Three Van Dammes, famous comedy acrobats, in a scene from happy Holland; the Finnetts, vocalists and dancers; George Lawrence, comedian; the Donatos, one legged jumpers and comedians; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 89 and 91, Blackburn-road.

ARBROATH.

OLYMPIA.—This week (twice nightly): Les Valdons, in vaudeville; Madge Goodall, comedienne; Tom Gibson, comedian; and pictures. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE THEATRE.—This week (twice nightly): Olivi Lizette and Alex. Wootton, in vocal numbers; Gene Crowe; and pictures. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.30.

Boots, The Chemists, 154, High-street.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

TIVOLI.—L. and M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert D. Hurst.—This week (twice nightly): Reginald Davis presents "Navy Blue"; Percy Johnson, comedian; Lillian Carter, soprano; Marie Louis; Arthur Royd, tenor; Arthur Lewis, clog dancer; the Four Wards, vocalists and dancers; and the Pearls, in vocal and musical entertainments.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long.—On Boxing Day large audiences were present to see the Bath pantomime, "Cinderella," presented by Mr. Hamilton Baines. The scenery is particularly pleasing to the eye, the music is bright and taking, and has been composed and arranged by Mr. Herbert Barnes, the orchestra being augmented for the pantomime season under the direction of Mr. George A. Sanders. To Mr. Fred Terriss as producer belongs chiefly the credit for a performance brimful of good things. A capital all-round cast includes Miss Lallah Davies as the Prince, Miss Anna Deirdre as the heroine, Miss Muriel Haydn as Dandini. The fun is safe in the hands of Mr. Charles Kay as the Baron, Mr. Harry Cooke as Pimples, Mr. George Green as Ethel, and Mr. Charles Goodman as Maudie. Specialities are also introduced by several of the above, and also by Little Eric, boy actor; Mr. Eric Victor, female impersonator; Grice and Allen; Sam Lockridge, and the Eight Coliseum Troupe of Dancers. The ballets are arranged by Miss Lizette Kitchen.

PALACE THEATRE.—S. M., Mr. S. P. Laing; M. D., Mr. F. Harrison.—The top line this week is the military revue, "Colonel Cobb," in five "commands," in which the chief funmaker is Mr. Harry Piddock. At the bottom of the bill is a spectacular interlude entitled "Britannia's Honour." Several first-class variety turns add to the general enjoyment of the audience. "Business as usual" is no catch phrase here, as excellent houses (twice nightly) have been the rule for many weeks past.

Boots, The Chemists, 21 and 22, Union-street, and 4 and 5, Union-passage; 56, South Gate-street.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Fred W. Warden's Christmas pantomime, "Dick Whittington," now in its second week, has undoubtedly delighted the Belfast public, and has achieved an absolute triumph.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction here is the four-act play, "A Fallen Idol," produced by Morton Powell's Enterprises Company, Ltd. Mr. Morton Powell acquits himself with distinction as Mr. Dennis O'Farrell; and nothing but praise must be accorded Miss Mabel Scudamore for her clever impersonation of Lady Laura Treshart. Mr. Harry Scott was admirable as Sir Richard Treshart, and Miss Maggie English appeared to advantage as Estelle Deschamp. Miss Helen Clavering Craig was in every sense satisfactory as Lady Calthorpe; and other rôles were adequately sustained by Miss Isabel Marte, Miss May Rosine, and Messrs. A. Churchill and Harry Leamar.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here this week is Mr. Neil Kenyon, who appears to great advantage in his clever character sketches, including "The billposter of Dunrobin." The Great Hockneys, described as Belgium novelty acrobatic cyclists, execute some daring feats; and a feature of the bill is the one-act comedy, "The Night of the Wedding," presented with much éclat by Mr. Philip Cunningham and Miss Maud Cressall. Polles and Cussick are paying a return visit with their smart comedy act, "The Merry Side of Life"; and also billed are the Almas, equilibrists and tumblers; Young and Simms, Hebrew entertainers; Bob E. Best, burlesque comedian; the Lightning Vinettos, refined comedy jugglers; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. S. J. Stonehouse.—The chief attraction here is provided by Ward and Vere, a talented comedy duo, whose act has been accorded a flattering reception; Wills and Warlock appear in their popular vaudeville performance; and Sam Hilton's songs have been loudly applauded. Also billed are Billy Snarth, the electric ventriloquist; Rapido, vocal impressionist; Loic Conn and her cornet; and the Bioscope.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jason; R. M., Mr. Alf. H. Hcok.—On Monday, Dec. 28, there was produced here a new military drama, entitled "Joy Sister of Mercy," by Eva Elwes, and produced by T. Edward Ward's company, including Fred W. Goddard, John Blake, Frank Lyndon, John Belton, Guy Desmond, Julian Charles, Jimmy B. Stewart, Gerald Rathbone, Raymond St. John, Will Shepherd, Kitty Renlior, Margaret Savill, Miss Ward.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Frank Gerald; Mus. D., Mr. B. Srawley.—Mr. Kelly has provided an irresistible attraction here in Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in "The Pearl Girl," which commenced a seven days' engagement on Bank Holiday (once nightly). An admirable array of clever artistes includes: Mesdames Ruby Vyvyan, Kitty Grahame, Mabel Munro, Berenice Melford, Madge Compton, Esmé Gordon Heller, Nellie Cavanagh, Maurice Gould, E. Carrington, Messrs. Harold Pearce, Walter Thomas, Edgar Stanmore, Campbell Bishop, Cecil Warwick, F. H. Elton, J. H. Val, William Rokeby, F. Dean, T. Walters-Williams, Andrew Brown, and A. Norwood. The dances are arranged by Willie Ward and Espinosa, and the augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. James Lowe.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Denney.—A capital holiday programme is sustained twice nightly by Tom Clare, piano entertainer; the Mongadors, in a comic juggling act; Evelyn and Clayton, Danish acrobats; Wilson and Waring, the popular comedy duo; Little Eva Dayce, a clever juvenile, with her pianist; Arthur Page, dialect comedian; the Welson Trio, in a comedy skating act; Chas. Vincent, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Frank Weston.—Travelling pantomime is the acceptable fare here. On Boxing Day the West-End Revue Production Company opened in "The Babes in the Wood." A spirited rendering (twice nightly) is supported by Miss Billie Carlton, Miss Vera Hillard, Messrs. Bernard and Weston, Dot and Muriel, Doc Jerome, Dolly and Lily Lans, Wytte and Whiz, and other competent artistes. A week's engagement includes several matinées.

Boots, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-road.

BIRMINGHAM.

ASTON THEATRE.—L., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. L. Chapman.—Twice nightly: Joe Collins' revue, "All the Best," with a strong cast, including Josh Dixon, Kitty Curtis, Eileen Gerrard, Harry Clayton, and Cribb and Cribb.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. Alfred Maurice. — Once nightly: First week of new management: Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's company in the domestic military drama, "A Soldier's Honour." The company includes: Victor Rea, Sidney A. Monkton, F. Carr, Henry Beckett, Paul Beckett, Richard Paxton, Bert Dench, Henry W. Monte, R. McPhillips, J. Roberts, Mona Hall, Vera Brunton, Enid Edonie, and Cissie St. Elmo.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian; M. D., Mr. J. Clegg.—Twice nightly: Fred Karno's latest production, "The Dental Institute," in which Bob Selvidge appears as Simpkins; Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew comedy duo; Ernie Garner, comedian; Rose Sartella and Co. in musical burlesque, "The Pick of the Bunch"; Daunton-Shaw Troupe of trick cyclists; and De Busse and his piano accordion.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Crossley Taylor; M. D., Mr. Chas. Bye.—Twice nightly: Shirley Kellogg, assisted by Mr. Clarence Whitehall and Olive Horner, in "An Incident"; Siems, card manipulator; Five Jovers, versatile gymnasts; Trio Belge, operatic artistes; Fred Wildon, comedian; The Romps; and Chas. Coban, versatile entertainer.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. J. G. Bates; M. D., Mr. J. Jackson.—Twice nightly: The Jackson Family of musicians; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, comedy entertainers; Turner Parr's Comedy Meisters; J. B. Ling, comedian and mimic; Dick Tubb, comedian; Four Shades, ladies' vocal quartette; Agda and Co. in novelty act, "The Lady of the Future"; and Sunny Sarah Hicks.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. B. Kennedy; M., Mr. W. H. Hebden.—Twice nightly: J. W. Hall, Lancashire comedian; Darty and Partner, acrobatic comedians; J. A. Carney, versatile entertainer; Joe Humphries, chorus comedian; Dolly Montcalm, comedienne; Male, Wilbur and Ross, versatile entertainers; and the Five Greenlees, in a novel vocal scena.

Boots, The Chemists, 36, Summer-row; 52, New-street; 10, Snow-hill; 167, Bread-street, 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-288, Gooch-street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; 141, Bristol-street, Colmore-row, and Bull-street.

BLACKPOOL.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. G. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank H. Jepson.—This week (once nightly): Jack Pleasants; Dandy George and his wonderful chimpanzee; Athol Tier, comedian and dancer; C. Tamamoto; Ragolio; Burns and Bentley; Walter Lintone; the Dandy Mascots; Dacre and Lynton, in musical and vocal scena; and pictures. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.30.

Boots, The Chemists, corner of Market-street and West-street; corner of Church-street and Station-road, South Shore.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Harry McKelvie presents "Tommy Tucker." The company includes: Mr. Tubby Edlin, Miss Ella Escoe, Mr. Reg. Bromlo, Miss Maud Vincent, Miss Alice Burnet, Mr. Fred Ingram, Miss Tina Bromlo, Miss Isa White, Miss Lily Bevan, Mr. J. Randle Wilson, Messrs. Hillier and Haynes, and Miss Nellie Boden. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.15.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—This week (twice nightly): W. C. Judge presents "The Girl and the Seal"; Little Doris, violinist; Baker and Bunn; Mlle. Marjutti; Les Musiciennes, in vocal act; Stewart Ferguson, tenor; Chas. Kasrac presents the Kasracs; the Record Quartette, in banjo act; and pictures. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison; Mus. D., Mr. G. H. Hunt.—This week (twice nightly): Richard Nightingale's pantomime, "Aladdin." The company includes: Dolly Ross, Ivy Rochefort, May Royal, Ivy Royal, Maisie Rochefort, Avery Hoard, Charles Grey, Bob Stevens, Mark Practice, Fred Broadway, Charles Stevens, Cranby and Adams, Maud Keithley, Winnie Hammond. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.30.

Boots, The Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-street; 139, Derby-street.

BRIDLINGTON.

SPA OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. R. C. Luxton.—This week: Messrs. Bowman and Maynard's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood; or, the Babes and the Merry Men of Sherwood Forest." Every evening, matinées Thursday and Saturday.

GRAND PAVILION THEATRE.—M., Mr. Charles Palmer.—This week: Archie Helsby's company. Monday and Tuesday, "Send Him Victorious"; Wednesday and Thursday, "A Beautiful Fiend"; Friday and Saturday, "A Traitor Prince."

BRISTOL.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. J. Christie; Asst. M., Mr. Edward Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Twice nightly: This week we have Leonard F. Durell's water show, "Say When," which is attracting a very large attendance. Other turns include Mr. and Mrs. Van Camp, with their performing pigs; Park's Eton Boys; and Tom and Baby are among the other entertainers engaged. Pictures (war and otherwise) conclude.

EMPIRE.—L. and M., Mr. Sid Macaire; Mus. D., Mr. Bert Hunter.—Twice nightly here we have a big production, presented by Mr. Harry Day, entitled "assing Events," a notice of which appears in another column. The Kilties also present their charming entertainment of song, dance, etc.

LIVERMORE'S PALACE.—Continuous performance. The leading picture here is "Caught in a Cabaret," in which parts are played by Charles Chaplin and Mary Norman. The band has been augmented for the holidays.

Boots, The Chemists, 13, Queen's-road, Clifton; 26, High-street.

BURNLEY.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Betty Barclay and a baritone; Tom Moore, comedian; Ida Ball, comedienne and dancer; Alberta Flahey and her Tenor; the Mysterious Yettmah, magician; Harry and Lilly Zanoni; Alfred Woods and company in "The Saint and the Sinner"; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 90, St. James's-street.

BURSLEM.

HIPPODROME.—P., Burslem Hippodrome, Ltd.; M., Mr. Ernest G. Lord.—Twice nightly for two nights: Mr. W. V. Garrod and his company, including Miss Bertha Kingston, in "A Wife for a Day." The cast includes: Mr. W. V. Garrod, Mr. Justice Hare, Mr. Edward Leroy, Mr. Alec Wilson Wynne, Mr. Charles Halling, Mr. Tom Arkinstall, Mr. Walter Vincent, Mr. Lyn Leter, Mr. Herbert Frederiake, Mr. Oliver Monkhouse, Mr. Michael Lewis, Miss Bertha Kingston, Miss Blanche Leroy, and Miss Maudy Merrick. "A Country Girl in London" and "The Sledge Hammer" are billed for the remainder of the week.

COLISEUM.—P., Burslem Coliseum, Ltd.; M., Mr. B. Bown.—This week (twice nightly and three matinées): Messrs. Leon Ferguson and Mack present "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Lola Charm, Miss Jessie Cameron, Miss Cissie Carlton, Miss May Vernon, Miss Rose Cathwrite, Miss Cissie Melville, Miss Daisy Clifton, Miss Lily White, Miss Ruby Earle, Miss Maris Madison, Miss Lily Stanley, Miss Winnie Stanley, Miss Jessie Ford, Miss Lottie Lundon, Mr. John Mack, Mr. Steve Ferguson, Mr. Billy Boriski, Mr. Charlie Boriski, Mr. Jack Ford, and Mr. George Parry. Specialities are provided by Ferguson and Mack, Lola Charm, Boriski Bros., Stanley Duo, Lundon and Parry, Jessie Cameron, The Fords, and the Four Netherlands.

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Queen-street.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Sec., Mr. H. Marsden.—Thursday, Friday, Saturday: Mr. George Hardcastle's "The Cnocs." Miss Ivy Popham, Miss Elsie Craven, Miss Marion Dawson, Mr. Robbie Dunn, Mr. George Horrocks, Mr. Geo. Hardcastle. Performances at 3 and 7.30 p.m.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: Merry McMarken, jolly musical girl; E. Jay Haigh, new ideas acromedian; Florina Cody, human target; pictures. Matinées, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday.

Boots, The Chemists, 46, 48, 50, Spring-gardens.

CANTERBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & L., Mr. Neville Cooper; R. M., Mr. E. R. Crow; Mus. D., Mr. W. T. Harvey, A.R.C.O.—Miss Inez Howard's company provided the Christmas attraction with Edward E. Rose's play "The Rosary." Mr. Henry Chattell, who acts as manager for Miss Howard, portrays very strongly Father Brian Kelly. Other characters are played by Mr. C. A. Baker, Mr. George F. Ide, Miss Camille Ronald, Miss Dorothy Maude, Mr. Avis C. Phelps, Mr. Alec Finlayson, and Miss May Kinlock.

Boots, The Chemists, 15, Mercery-lane; 16, High-street.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; M., Mr. Buccleuch.—Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime, "Mother Goose," opened on Boxing Day to crowded houses, and will run for a fortnight. There is a full chorus and an augmented orchestra, and an elaborate scene, "The Mammoth Staircase of Cupid," is staged. The company includes Goodfellow and Gregson, Hartwell Morrice, Johnny Mackay, Miss Edith Rolfe, the Sisters Gaye, Leonard Maitland, Austin Lenton, Wilson Arnolds, Miss Louie Cecil, the Yale Sextette, the Six Drummer Girls, Signora Donna Donita, and Miss Nan Taylor.

Boots, The Chemists, 28, Eastgate-row and 24, Eastgate-street.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. L. F. Testot.—The O'Mara Opera Co. opened here on Boxing Day for seven nights and two matinées. The company includes: Mlle. Zelie de Lussan, Rita Wallace, Anna Lindsey, Constance Bower, Kathleen McCully, Raymonde Amy, William Anderson, Joseph O'Mara, William Boland, Henry Thompson, Henry O'Dempsey, Lewys James, John Olivere, Arthur Vallance, William Heughan, Kingsley Lark, and Patrick McCaffrey. The repertoire comprises "Il Trovatore," "The Bohemian Girl," "Faust," "Maritana," "Carmen," "Lily of Killarney," "Cavalleria Rusticana," and "Pagliacci."

Boots, The Chemists, 56-58, Market-street.

CROYDON.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; A. M., Mr. Charles Baughen; Mus. D., Mr. Gilbert Smith.—This week (twice nightly): Rosa Lind, the Five Tritons, Arthur Gilroy, Charles Coborn, war pictures, and Harry Day's revue, "Hullo! Everybody." Cast includes: Esta Stella, George Clarke, May Beatty, Jack Gray, H. A. Matthews, Leslie Lisle, F. W. Bates, Lynda Martell, Lilian Pollard, and the Lottie Stone Troupe.

Boots, The Chemists, 50, George-street; 42-44, North-end.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; A. M., Mr. Wm. Harley.—This week: Frank Rubens and company in a musical farcical burlesque, "I've Seen the 'Arem." The company includes: Miss Bijou Dreno, Mr. Leslie Ward, Mr. Jack Crichton, Miss Ethel Entwistle, Miss Nora Gorman, Mr. Jimmy Kurry, Messrs. Dan Clark and Tommy Mostol, Faresha Troupe of Moorish dancers, Four Giant Nubians, and beauty chorus of forty.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (once nightly): Mr. James Kiddie presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Mr. William Verto, Mr. John Vert, Miss Maude Roland, Miss Bertha Bartell, Miss Kitty Coleman, Miss Elsie Dorothy Sinclair, Miss Agnes Gosling, Miss Beattie Porter, Miss Rose Hall, Mr. Leslie Hawkins, Mr. Harry Bliss, Miss Lillian Unett, Mr. Leo Bliss, Miss Dorothy Lloyd, Miss Lily Ennis, Miss Hetty Gale, Miss Mabel Sinclair, Miss Maud Roland, Lily and May.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week (twice nightly): Herbert Darnley presents "Potts in Port"; Harold Heath, comedian and dancer; Edna Lorne, contralto; Murfayne; Little Joe Pacy, comedian; Giordana, conjurer; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatres (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. C. T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Florence Bains and company in "Miss Lancashire, Limited" The company includes: Mr. Gilbert Hall, Miss Hilda Maas, Mr. R. Northall, Miss Catherine May, Mr. Edward Ray, Mr. Tom Barnsley, Mr. John Price, Mr. W. E. Passmore, Mr. Payne Fletcher, Miss Fanny Olive, Miss Florence Baines.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. C. V. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): Tom Nelson and company in "Sergeant Keatings on Night Duty"; Harold Gray, double-voiced vocalist; Mart and Pep, acrobatic hand-to-hand balancers and tumblers; Clara Coverdale presents the Eight Petronellas; Maidie and Gent in singing, talking, and dancing; Nat Gold, the eccentric patter comedian; the Weymans, in speciality; Columbia Trio, comedy vocalists; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 71, French-gate.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. S. W. Winter; M., Mr. J. T. Poole; Mus. C., Mr. C. C. Hill.—This week (twice nightly): Guilly and Jeanny, the Belgian wonders, in balancing act; Magda, in French lantern posing act; Harold Baker, Lancashire character comedian; Eddie Burns, comedian and speciality dancer; Douglas and Jackson, in "Made in Germany"; Holden and Claire, vocalists and dancers; Crama and Cart, in drawing-room act.

KING'S HALL (PICTURES).—G. M., Mr. H. Day; A. M., Mr. J. J. Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): James Saker, baritone; Jacqueline Claire, soprano.

Boots, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-street.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; L. & M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. W. Ramsay; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—"The Girl in the Taxi" is playing to enormous business this week. The cast, including such brilliant artistes as Misses Daisy Bindley, Gladys Avery, Florence Hunt, Elsie Paton, and Messrs. Paddy Dupres, Robert Blyth, Percy Carr, Leo Sheffield, Cecil Barnes, J. J. Dallas, and Little Tony.

PALACE PLAYHOUSE.—P., Dundee Varieties, Ltd.; M., Mr. T. H. Middleton; Mus. D., Mr. James Murphy.—Mr. Harry M'Kelvie's pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," is playing to huge houses this week. The production goes with a fine swing throughout. The scenery is very bright and effective, the dresses are dreams of loveliness, while the music, which includes several original numbers composed by Mr. Robert M'Leod, is of the most tuneful description. Miss Susie Marney as Harry, a young military officer, and Miss May Merry as Goody carry off the honours amongst the ladies. Both possess melodious voices, which they use with skill in several numbers. Miss Jenny Roy and Miss Lily Roy, the second boy and girl respectively, are a clever couple and work well together. Mr. Harry Elliston is thoroughly entertaining as Dame Goodheart. Mr. Jim Bond has a good part as Tam the Postie, and he never fails to provoke laughter. Mr. George Regan and Mr. Fred Ryan as two tramps give ludicrous impersonations and create a big impression. Mr. E. W. Avery as the Baron ably assists in the funmaking, as does also Mr. Samuel Esden as the Baron's son. As Fairy Good Fortune Miss Elsie May is conspicuously good, while the chorus and ballet ladies, trained by Miss Lily Beven, contribute much to the enjoyment of a capital show. Mr. Robert McLeod conducts the augmented band with spirit and musicianly skill.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. Robert Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—Gibson and Heyden, cross-talk comedians and simultaneous dancers, prove very popular here; Little Bob, in clever Scottische and buck dancing, is very popular; and pictures complete.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh.—Eric Crewe and Rena Marr appear with success here in an artistic scena, "Song, Story and Piano," in addition to a strong picture programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Joe Bell.—The Seven Limits, harmonising vocalists and dancers, in clever show, supplement the picture programme here.

KINNAIRD HALL.—The kinemacolour war picture, "With the Fighting Forces of Europe," is proving a big attraction here, the explanatory and descriptive remarks by Mr. Charles Williams being instructive and interesting.

Boots, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

EASTBOURNE.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Cissie Curlette, comedienne; Arthur Leslie, burlesque comedian; Donal and Valls, eccentrics; Mabel Mavis (La Pierrette); the Three Osrams, dancers; Lilian Rose, comedienne; Sisters Lacey, vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Poilsen.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant's touring company in "The Yogi's Star," "Disappearing Donkey," etc.

DEVONSHIRE PARK WINTER GARDENS.—M. and S., Mr. Edgar Allan Brown; M. D., Mr. Norfolk Megone.—Daily concerts by the Devonshire Park Orchestra. In the Pavilion: "The Bunch of Keys."

Boots, The Chemists, 6, Seaside.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Simon Ord; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company has drawn large holiday audiences here with "The Pearl Girl." In the bright and attractive performance of the company much praise is due not only to Miss Annie Croft, Mr. H. Nelson Hancock, Mr. George Hestor, and Mr. Dan Agar, but to Mr. Reginald Sharland and Miss Gretchen Yates in the characters of Robert Jaffray and Lady Betty. Mr. Sharland and Miss Yates sing with humour and expression, and their dancing is exceedingly graceful. The mise en scène is very beautiful.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—A strong feature is found this week in the operatic spectacle, "Come Inside!" presented by Harry Day, with an effective equipment of scenic and other accessories, including a large chorus and a double quartette of male voices, besides a Lottie Stone troupe of lady dancers. The leading rôles are well sustained by Mr. Horace Jones, Miss Winifred Hare, and Miss Mamie Clifford. Mr. George Hall directs the orchestra. Good comedy turns are also provided by Tom Jones and Harry Lewis, and the Five Symphony Girls contribute a pleasing musical interlude.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., The Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly): Andie Caine presents "Dick Whittington and His Cat." The company includes: Eileen Dagmar, Winnie Usher, the Sisters Florencie, Hawthorne Thwaites, Maud Franks, Charles Danton, Bobbie Burns, George Fairhurst, King and Cole, Arthur Service, Leslie Conway, Little Johnny, and Andie Caine. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.30.

Boots, The Chemists, 192, High-street.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This week (once nightly): Graham Morrison presents "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Prue Purl, Miss Gwennie Morgan, Miss Nellie James, Miss Florrie Cameron, Miss Low Maby, Mr. Harry Merrylees, Mr. J. G. Aitken, Mr. Ted B. Rose, Mr. Harry Kitchen, Mr. Robert Ensor, Mr. Hubert Davis, the Swansons, and Mr. Arthur Milton. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—P., Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—Mr. Chas. Elphinstone has arranged with Mr. C. St. John Denton to produce this season's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." The opening performance went without a hitch, and all concerned deserve warm praise. The company includes: Miss Mabel Mason (Robin Hood), Miss Leslie Elliott (Maid Marian), Miss Felicia Firmin (Will Scarlett), Miss Edith Bassett Simons (Fairy Queen), Ray and Zack (the Babes), Brothers Sultan (Robbers), Mr. Godfrey Pariss (Page), Mr. Bay Russell (Dame), Mr. Albert Darnley (the Baron). Children's ballet trained by Mr. H. T. Butler. The Harvard Sextette give a speciality act.

GRAND.—P., Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich.—Mr. Oswald Williams, illusionist; Eric Stone, an artistic entertainer; Florence Lillian Trio, in a musical act; Dick and Dorothy Trio, in harmonic numbers; Gloria, in "Punch" war cartoons; Harry Bradshaw, a tenor; Woody, Wood and Wells, acrobats; and pictures.

KING'S.—L. and M., Captain F. Shaw.—Tom Beasley, baritone, in vaudeville numbers; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, Chime Buildings, 24 and 25, Piccadilly.

HARTLEPOOL.

PALLADIUM.—L., Mr. Thos. Thompson; M., Mr. Geo. Adamson; Mus. D., Mr. Carter Staincliffe.—During the week Selbini, comedy juggler; Little Sonia, vocalist; Maryon and Vens, comedians and dancers; and pictures.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.—This week (for three nights and a matinée): Charles Macdona's chief company in "Pygmalion." The company includes: Messrs. Bernard Merefield, George Mallett, Eric Howard, Harry Parker, James Malvern, W. Thomas, Misses Dorothy Dix, Kate Forster, Doris Norman Trevor, Harriet Polini, Stella Leigh, Maud Elton. The latter half of the week Mr. Mark Blow presents Miss Nellie Bowman and Mr. Robert Bottomley in "My Aunt."

Boots, The Chemists, 17, 18, 19, Robertson-st.; 61, George-street.

HUDDERSFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. S. Winks.—Once nightly: Messrs. Macdonald and Young's company in "The Dollar Princess."

PALACE.—P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—Twice nightly: The Corner-Grey musical combination in "Symphonia"; Miss Renée Graham, comedienne; Charlene and Charlene, entertainers; Ketos, comedians; Vic and Vic, duettists; Ed. E. Ford, character comedian; Ellis Barrieton, vocalist; and pictures.

HULL.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; M., Mr. George Morton.—On Monday night Mr. Geo. N. Ballanger's company, in "The Frozen North," a play new to the city, received a very hearty welcome. The play introduces Young Buffalo, an artiste who has gained popularity in the city. One of the most exciting episodes in the play is that where he rescues his little sister, cleverly played by little Miss Dolly Stamp. The company supporting are all extremely capable.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnett.—This week (twice nightly): Sydney Blow and Will Collins present "The Redheads"; Haye and Crawford, dancers; Takase, magician; Christie Duo, in dancing act; Morney Cash, comedian; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—L., Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. F. and H. Reeves present "Go Ahead"; Moore and Sumner; Syd Sydney, comedian and dancer; Sergeant Brennan; and the Royal Ikoma Family.

Boots, The Chemists, 10 and 12, King Edward-street.

BRISTOL—COLSTON HALL.

One of the finest Halls in England for Concerts, Political Meetings, and Entertainments. Full particulars may be obtained from the SECRETARY, at 33, Corn Street, Bristol.

BRIXHAM (S. Devon).—TOWN HALL.

District Population, 10,000. Length of hall floor, 66 ft.; width, 38ft.; stage, 31 ft by 21 ft.; 20 ft. high. Holds 800. Lighted by large Incandescent Gas Lights. Proscenium and Act Drop, convenient Dressing Rooms and Lavatories. Fully Licensed. Terms: Dramatic, £2 10s. one night; other than Dramatic, £2 one night. Good Companies do Good Business. For further particulars apply to the Clerk to the Urban District Council, Brixham.

DROITWICH.—SALTERS' HALL.

Well-furnished excellent Hall for Concerts, Theatricals, etc., with large seating Accommodation on Floor and in Gallery. Licensed for Plays. The Hall contains Permanent Stage, with Proscenium, Tableau Curtains, Dressing Rooms, and other appointments. (No Picture Shows.) For terms of booking, apply J. H. HOLLYER, 2, Corbett Estate Off

ILKESTON.

PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: Arthur Watson and Co. in musical comedy revue, "Boys of the Empire"; Marion Broom and Leslie James in "A Chelsea China Romance"; Flo Stanley and company in "Sprouts."

Boors, The Chemists, 122-124, Bath-street.

IPSWICH.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. J. Gordon Bostock.—This week: Clifford Brooke's company in "The Truth About Mr. Watson"; Fred Carey, comedian; Little Ettie Howard in impersonations; Ruby de Fontenoy, lady shot; Jack Barlow, basso, at piano and organ; Walter Saxby, burlesque comedian; Mlle. Margo, the mirthful mystic; and the Bioscope.

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; Mus. D., Mr. Frederick James.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Herbert Ralland's company in "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Mr. Bert Murray, Mr. Ripley Evans, Mr. Walter Wichlow, Mr. Donald Mackay, Mr. George Westbury, Mr. Barry Rayne, Mr. Jack Kelly, Mr. Geo. Jewett, Mr. Howard Reed, Miss Amy Bingham, Miss Leamy Green, Miss B. Verne, Miss Rene Langford, and Miss Florence Faber.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite.—This week (once nightly, for three nights and matinée Saturday, at 2.30): Charles Windermere and Seymour Hodges present "Potash and Perlmutter." The company includes: Mr. Douglas Lloyd, Mr. William Allison, Mr. C. B. Keston, Mr. H. F. Maltby, Mr. Maurice Neville, Mr. David Hallam, Mr. Rex Tonkings, Mr. Gordon Starkey, Mr. Ernest Fosbrook, Mr. G. Edwin, Mr. A. Mackenzie, Mr. Paul Kent, Miss Constance Lamming, Miss Helen Pendennis, Miss Iris Vandeleur, Miss Gwen Garton, Miss Vera McCallum, Miss M. Douglas, and Miss Mabel Santos. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday: "A Pitman's Daughters." The company includes: Mr. J. H. Clyndes, Miss Lizzie Lennon, Miss Amy Hardcastle, Miss Yoxa Summer, Mr. Frank Price, Mr. George Searle, Mr. Charles H. Herberte Mr. Richard Webb, Mr. Fred Luard, and Miss Frieda Johnson.

Boors, The Chemists 36 and 38, Penny-street.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A big success has attended the visit here of the famous D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, the house being crowded at each performance, and the various artistes receiving a vociferous welcome from delighted audiences. The company is a particularly strong one, and includes such gifted people as Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. Henry Lytton, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. James Hay, Mr. Frederic Hobbs, Mr. Dewey Gibson, Miss Clara Dow, Miss Nellie Briercliffe, Miss Ella Milne, Miss Hilda Cross, and Miss Bertha Lewis. The splendidly balanced and attractive chorus deserve special eulogium, and the augmented chorus, under Mr. Walter Hahn, left nothing to be desired. "The Gondoliers" was presented on Monday, followed during the week by "Iolanthe," "Princess Ida," "The Yeomen of the Guard," "The Pirates of Penzance," and "Trial by Jury."

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—P., The Leicester Palace Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips; Mus. C., Mr. John W. Lowe.—Mr. Stanley Brett and Miss Zoe Gordon are here in the exhilarating comedy, "The Girl in Possession," which is deservedly well received. Violet Black, supported by Charles Alexander and company, are making a hit in the comedy sketch, "The Girl with the Wink"; and a wonderful display is given by the Twelve Wezzans, Moroccan war tumblers. The Villions, in their cycling and acrobatic whirlwind dancing act, are as popular as ever; and the Terry Twins are receiving a hearty reception. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden are always a success in their well-played comedy sketches; and the Grace Brothers are smart equilibrists. Doreen and Ivey Aberdare are versatile girls; and Will Hay, the schoolmaster comedian, is also good.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. C., Mr. Fred Britcher.—The outstanding feature of this week's programme is Fred Granville and company in the dramatic episode, "The Bogus Prince"; Eva Macdonald delights all with her songs; and Charles Russell and Little Elsie are good in their novel scena, "Grandad's Birthday." Bert Castle is a capital light comedian; and Leolin scores a hit in a clever and amusing Indian club juggling act. Violet Lester is a clever comedienne and dancer.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., The New Bioscope Trading Company; M. D., Mr. F. R. Griffiths; R. M., Mr. Fred Pollard.—Mr. Fred Pollard, an artiste well known in the profession, and a former manager at a local music hall, has been installed here as resident manager. For this week a specially attractive list of films are being shown, with the Dawleys, in a sliding wire act, and Miss Mona Peers, with illustrated songs, as additional attractions.

Boors, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-street; 301, Belgrave-gate.

LUTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. Graham Falcon; B. M., Mr. Walter O'Sullivan.—This week (twice nightly): Sam Livesey presents "A Heritage of Hate." The company includes: Sam Livesey, Cyril Grier, F. Lock Whittaker, Charles Fielding, Frank Woodville, Billie Owen, Harold Wesley, Gus Radcliffe, C. Stephen Geary, Edward Morris, Tom Halstead, Sidney Bale, Cassie Le Grand, Agnes Davidson, Dora Agneson, Edith Giddens, and Molly Malin.

Boors, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Frank Weathersby's company in "The Second in Command." The company includes: Mr. George Hanbury, Mr. James Hussey, Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. Alfred Richards, Mr. Roland Hoopton, Mr. James Manton, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Mr. Jack Hellier, Mr. Norman Clark, Mr. Chas. Horne, Miss Edith Cruikshanks, Miss Dorrie Roberts, and Miss Mary Mallallieu.

HIPPODROME.—P., The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall. — This week (twice nightly), Alick Chumley and A. Russell-Davis present "The Perplexed Husband." The company includes: Miss Rosemary Rees, Miss Marjon Courtenay, Miss Netta Duveen, Miss Josephine Middleton, Miss Madge Severn, Mr. Frederick Keen, Mr. T. Russell, Mr. A. Russell-Davis, Mr. Alick Chumley, and others.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. J. Charles Imeson; M., Mr. George Imeson.—This week: Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's Royal Stock Company present (twice nightly) "The Sailor's Sweetheart," with Mr. Stanley W. Healey and Miss Violet Carlyle in the leading rôles.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; M., Mr. W. Ker Chatto; Mus. D., Mr. Walter Scott.—This week (twice nightly): Peter Donald and Meta Carson, Alden and Lowpe, The Wedgewood Classics, The Dorinos, Gaston Morel, Cecilia and Lina Lallier, Dick Inson, The Mortons, and Cherry Kearton's war pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Thomas Thompson; M., Mr. R. Frank Parker; Mus. D., Mr Walden.—This week (twice nightly): The Fordyce Family, Little Ganty, and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-street.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—This week (twice nightly): Liane D'Eve, comedienne; Horace Hunter and company; Cissie Lupino, dancer; Harry Leybourne, comedy entertainer; the Quaint Q's; A. D. Robbins; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-street.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Lawrie Owen.—This week (twice nightly): The famous Riegoku Family of Japanese risley artistes; Emilie Tait, operatic vocalist; Win and Windle, in "Railway Revelations"; Jack Smiles, vocal comedian and dancer; Eight Camp Singers, in a charming musical scena; Harvey Brinton, a clever entertainer at the piano; Lily Flexmore, comedienne and dancer; and Will Bishop and company, in a dancing novelty, "The Gollywog."

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. James Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): The Lizette Trio of acrobats; Gwyn Arthur, chorus vocalist; Smyler Lee, an able patter comedian; Indianava, the Red Indian singing squaw; and Flo Denton, with her talented troupe of girl and boy dancers.

Boors, The Chemists, 6, Gold-street; and 2, The Drapery.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Henry L. Osmond and company in "Miss Lamb of Canterbury." Company includes: Messrs. Henry L. Osmond, Bert Fryer, Percy Foreman, Loui Ernest, Harry Harrop, Jack Gammon, Misses Ethel Clyde, Marjorie Seymour, Louie Tetley, Letty Linden, and Sybil Stuart.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—L. and M., Messrs. Black Brothers; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Lavender.—This week (twice nightly): Diavelo, in Looping the Wheel of Death; Maxford and O'Neill, comedians; Hanvarr and Lee, comedy artistes; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-street.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Fred Morgan.—This week: "The Lady Slavey," presented by Mr. Leonard Willoughby. The company includes: Mr. Frank H. Crimp, Miss Marjorie Kennard, Mr. W. T. Thompson, Miss Claudia Guillot, and R. I. Cutter, &c.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—This week (twice nightly): "Aladdin." The first pantomime of the season, presented by Mr. Edward Marris's company, opened to crowded houses. The company includes a number of well-known artistes. Miss Ethel Ward, specially engaged, is Aladdin, with Mr. Phil Lester as the Widow Twankey, and Mr. J. Templar Ellis as Abanazar.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. Geo. Starkey.—Pictures and variety. This week: Donn and Dixey, musical speciality; Lula Leigh, comedienne.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, London-street, Briggate; 6, Goat-lane, 22, Magdalen-street.

NUNEATON.

HIPPODROME.—P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan; A. M., Mr. E. H. Copson.—This week: Dot Stephens' company, in "A Bad Woman's Vengeance." The company includes: Joseph Hill, Percy Braithwaite, George H. Hazlehurst, A. J. Gillette, Walter Dale, S. G. Leslie, Ethel Tooney, N. Thorne Hallam, Kitty Russell, Minnie Elstone, and Dot Stephens.

PICTUREDROME. — P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan; A. M., Mr. E. H. Copson.—This week: Edith Chantler, Ernie Leno, Lowell Bros., Niagara and Falls, and pictures.

ROYAL ELECTRIC HALL. — L., Mr. E. A. Shute; M., Mr. J. H. Phillips.—This week: The Two Dees, Fort and Manson, and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 11, Market-place.

NOTTINGHAM.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. J. Hague.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace presents the interesting romantic play, "The Apple of Eden," and crowded houses give the company a gratifying reception. Miss Evelyn Carleton plays Queen Margaret with quiet dignity and a fascination that wins all hearts. A finished performance of an English gentleman is furnished by Mr. Jefferson Gore as Mr. Julian Hanbury; Mr. Arthur Nicolas is earnest and sincere in the rôle of his friend, Robert Bertram. Prominent parts are taken by Mr. Geo. K. Ashley (King Ferdinand) and Mr. Vernon Fortescue (Prince Nicola), while Mr. H. Elliott Ball acts well as General Pavios. Miss Maud Kynnersley makes an excellent Lady Hanbury, and Miss Pattie Dene is appropriately placed as Winifred Cresson.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd., A. M., Mr. A. H. Williams; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—"Miss Paris in London" is splendidly staged and dressed by Messrs. Gilbert and Watson, and holiday crowds give it a vociferous welcome. The water spectacle is skilfully arranged, and the large company of artistes includes Ernie Sefton, Olive Plant, Norah Guy, Gus Sharland, Charles Berkeley, Reginald Relsie, Geo. Vaughan, Nellie Sheffield, Grace Towers, Jack Woods, E. Sykes, and E. Keighley. The programme is further enlivened by Tucker, an expert artiste, who styles himself the singing violinist; Emerald and Dupre, a mirth-provoking couple of comedians; and Charles Mildare, a clever silfleur.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. G. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Harry Lyons; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wright.—A return visit of the seaside revue, "Splash Me," is having a warm welcome from patrons here. Music, dress, and frolic makes it attractive fare, and the goodly company of artistes include Miss Dodge, Tina Cambell, Molly Green, Cissy Blake, Bee Sutherland, Grace Sinclair, Vera Delamaine, Ernest French, Alan Russell, Harry Payne, Harry De Metz, and Billy Fry. The ventriloquial fishing scena of Norman Osborne is marvellously clever and heartily amusing; Azella Wilson's display of muscular feats evokes applause; the Three Melody Maids provide a delightful instrumental treat; and Ted Worth's eccentricities are recognised.

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Goose-gate, Trent Bridge; 43, Arkwright-street, 177-79, Alfreton-road; 126-8, Derby-road; 83, St. Ann's Well-road, High-street, and Pelham-street; Exchange-walk; 22, London-road; 181, Mansfield-road; 10, Lister-gate; 1, Angel-road, Market-place; 1, Mansfield-road (corner of Shakespeare-street); 269, St. Ann's Well-road, Carrington-street Bridge; 66, Wilford-road.

PAISLEY.

HIPPODROME.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. H. W. Pinchon; M. D., Mr. J. Cartmell.—This week (twice nightly and two matinées): The Ten Loonies, comical musical comedians; Jean Robb and Jim Dixon, mirthful melody magnets; Merry Demons, in an original comedy acrobatic speciality; Moxon Trio, jugglers, dancers, equilibrists, and acrobats; Baker and Balfe, xylophone players and eccentric dancers; Neil and Davis, Scotch comedy entertainers; Tony Black, comedian; and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; M., Mr. W. E. Willis, jun.; A. M., Mr. Leslie Phelps; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Boothroyd.—This week (once nightly; Monday matinée): J. Pitt-Hardacre and company. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, "East Lynne"; Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, "A Soldier's Legacy." B. M., Mr. C. Stanley Gordon.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. Salway; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Marcer; O., Mr. Harry Newman.—This week (twice nightly): Vine and Brewer, in artistic musical act; Corrie and Foot, in an eccentric comedy act; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday, 10.30 a.m.; Saturday, 3 p.m.

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. King and Parry.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Joseph's company in "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Lena Stanton, Miss Kitty Avey, Miss Lena Joseph, the Frisco Girls, Miss D. Eaton, Miss Vi Anderson, Miss G. Gentle, Miss A. Berle, Miss P. Stuart, Miss L. Dane, Miss O. Vine, Miss M. Fowler, Mr. Victor Deeps, Miss Greta Hamond, Mr. Ormond Carton, Miss Madge Fraser, Little Toss, Mr. Jack Hayman, Messrs. Evans and Rolands, Mr. Ted Cartwright, Mr. Bruce Green, Miss Gipsy Douglas, Miss Kitty Plewes, Miss Lillie Lorraine, Miss Marie May, Miss Kit Richardson, Miss Tilly Davies, Miss Lily Jones and Miss Marie Deane.

PORTSMOUTH.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., Portsmouth Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Peter Davey; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—"Alice Up-to-Date" is the title of a revue holding chief place in this week's programme. The company includes: Austin Melford, James Rous, and Molly Dawson. Selbit's Shadow People is a surprising illusion, with no hint as to how it is done; the Four Royal Scots are a clever troupe with their instrumental and vocal act; the Bros. Webb are amusing, and Sinclair's Three Blue Bells dance excellently; Manuel Da Fra performs some smart feats; and war pictures complete.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — P., Portsmouth Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Peter Davey; A. M., Mr. C. H. Johnston.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company (twice nightly), in "As Your Hair Grows Whiter." Cast includes: Mr. Herbert Fuller and Miss Agnes Collier.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. W. de Frece; R. M., Mr. Claude E. Marner.—"Europe," a revue of an international type, is presented this week. The Great Wieland performs some clever feats smartly, and also appearing are Mignon Elise and Eddie Foy; Burley and Burley; Belle and Jules Terry; O'Gust; Dexter; Will Norrie; pictures conclude.

COLISEUM.—M. D., Captain Warren-Wright; M., Mr. W. Pratt.—Heading this week's bill are the Craggs, in comedy sketch, "Billy"; Henry Clive and Mabel Bunyea appear in an amusing sketch, and Tom Cullen sings in excellent manner; Doris Duquesne is a clever little entertainer, and Daphne Wynne is a graceful dancer; Henry Hilton, in sleight of hand tricks, and W. L. Rowland, comedian, with war pictures, conclude.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. W. Leslie Knight.—Picture season for few weeks.

PRINCES THEATRE.—L., P. F. E., Ltd.; M., Mr. J. A. Newton.—This week: Picture season for few weeks.

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EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Preston Empire and Hotel Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush.—Twice nightly. This week: The Great Arvi Mystery; T. Buron, comedian; Rudyer Bann, cowboy musician; Maurice Dunn, baritone; Arthur Melrose, entertainer; Sydney Brandon, monologist; Miller Sutcliffe, in Highland entertainment; Gyto, juggler; and Bellman and Poluski, in comedy act.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Twice nightly. This week: Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." Cast includes: Messrs. Reggie Dingle, Arthur Lenville, H. Irving, Verno and Lambert, Misses Ella Vane, Maud Phillips, Maisie Lynn, and Ethel Caine.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. F. E. Burdet.—Twice nightly. This week: Messrs. Ray Bros. present revue, "Something Doing"; May Mars, in vocal scena; Arthur Stroud, vocalist; The Piquays, dancers; Tom E. Hughes, comedian; Bowyer and Westwood, in operatic elections; and the Great Stirling.

Boors, The Chemists, 27, Fishergate.

READING.

PALACE THEATRE.—P. and M., The Reading Palace of Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. J. H. Hyslop.—A most attractive Christmas programme is being presented at this popular house. The turns include Gautier's Animated Toy Shop; Alcide Capitaine, the perfect gymnast; Will H. Fox, comedian; the Merry Four, harmonising comedians and dancers; Binns, Binns and Binns, the vagabonds, in comedy and music; Nesta Verney, male impersonator; Scott Gibson, Scotch comedian; the Child Trio, in their clever musical selections, under the direction of Prof. M. S. Child; and the latest war and topical pictures in Pathé's Gazette.

Boors, The Chemists, 91, Broad-street; 2, Duke-street.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hope.—This week (once nightly): Mlle. De Rose's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Mlle. De Rose, Lillian Drake, Amie Dane, Isabel Alberta, Inez Stuart, Dolly Caffrey, Jack Kydd, Chas Kydd, Billy Daynes, Bob Cromwell, Fred White, Egar Brown, Will Young, Harry Best, Reg East, Johnnie Wood, Miss Hilda Claremont.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, senr.—This week (twice nightly): Alex Lawson, dancer; Marie Hicks and Maurice Grafton, "His Lady Love"; Fred Gilbert, comedian; Gus Fowler, the watch king; the Q's, entertainers; Magini, violin vizard; and the Three Meers, comedy wire performers.

EMPIRE.—P., Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; M., Mr. Albert Jones.—This week: Jaap Van Laren, comedy slack wire act; Reeve and Moreton, vocal and step dancing act; Jeavon and Jena, canine novelty act; and pictures.

PALACE.—S. L., the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. N. M. Robinson.—This week (twice nightly): Charles Locke's musical play, "A Blind Girl's Love." The company includes: Frank Hertie, Geo. Steel, Bobbie Graham, Algie Spalding, W. H. Seguin, George Loreno, Adeline Raby, Milly Seale, Daphne Howell, Issa Steel.

Boors, The Chemists, 42, Drake-street; 59-61, Yorkshire-street.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—L., Messrs. R. Nightingale and S. S. Gordon.—Herbert Skardon this week presents "A Soldier's Rosary" once nightly, and matinée on Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Twice nightly: The Star Syndicate present the revue, "Town Topics." There are also turns by Katie Butler, comedienne; Alf Mitchell, comedian; Velo, a dancing novelty, is presented by Sig. Sprotti; the Minerva Troupe of football Cyclists give their clever act.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—Twice nightly: "The Coastguard's Daughter" is presented by J. A. Campbell's company.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Tom Sherlock, vocalist, in new songs; pictures. Twice nightly, and matinées daily.

Boors, The Chemists, 277, Chapel-street; 91, Regent-road; 404, Regent-road.

SHEERNESS.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Reginald Pareezer; Mus. D., Mr. N. D. Godwin.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Firth presents the pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood."

Boors, The Chemists, 6 and 8, The Crescent.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company opened to a crowded and enthusiastic audience on Boxing Day in "The Cinema Star." The cast was good all round, and the splendid *mise-en-scène* from the Shaftesbury Theatre was much admired.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—Crowded houses were the rule here on Boxing Day. On Monday the holiday programme included the following artistes, who appeared twice nightly: Chung Ling Soo, the wonderful illusionist; Vernon Watson, with imitations of dramatic and variety comedians; the Pasquali Freres, equilibrists; Amos Howard, vocalist; the Four Vagabonds, the vocalistic comedians; and Edna Lyall, a pleasing singer.

TIVOLI.—P., The Sheffield Tivoli, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Windsor Stevenson.—The Tivoli theatre de luxe has shared in the general prosperity of the holiday week with the Melody Maids, &c. The following artistes opened on Monday: Eric Godley, operatic vocalist; the Hengler Bros., novel comedians; and other clever entertainers.

Boors, The Chemists, 55 and 57, Snig-hill; 252-54, West-street and 2, Regent-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Netherthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34, 36, Spittal-hill; 284, Shalesmoor; 183, Attercliffe-common; 760-2-4, Attercliffe-road; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street, 2-4, Duke-street Park; 514-18, London-road; Heeley Bridge; 202, South-street, Moor; 652, Staniforth-road, Darnall; 129, Newbould-lane, Broomhill; 35, Millwood-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—The holiday attraction is "The Count of Luxembourg," admirably presented by Messrs. Macdonald and Young's company. The company includes: Messrs. H. V. Cropton, Mansell Stringer, Richard Teasdale, and the Misses Nancy Mortimer and Clarice Lockstone. Next week: The D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Wally Stephenson.—Twice nightly: Norton, the human aquarium; Carl Miller; Great and Good; Marie Masque, soprano, and her sister Dora; Nora and Sidney Kellogg; the Four Clovelly Girls; and Frank F. Street in the sketch "The Gunfighter."

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—Twice nightly: Mlle. Irma Lorraine, in an entrancing spectacle; Veronica Brady; Alec Kendal; Herd and Gard; Jenny Lynwood; Tambo and Tambo; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto; and Cooper Mitchell.

Boors, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 75, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 96, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bedovis-hill.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. and M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Lonsdale.—This week (once nightly): J. Bannister Howard's company in "The Belle of New York." The company includes: Mr. C. Gibb McLaughlin, Mr. Montague Golding, Mr. Pete Gardiner, Mr. J. W. Hooper, Mr. Rube Walman, Mr. Walter Uridge, Mr. Ernest Giffard, Mr. Lionel Yeoman, Mr. A. Lawrence, Mr. Alfred Hope, Mr. Walter Albert, Miss Sonie Ray, Miss May Ronayne, Miss Nan Gullick, Miss Kitty Hope, Miss Enid South, Miss Beatrice Vint, Miss B. Marsden, Miss Maie Moon, Miss Raie Denton, Miss T. March, Miss Maudie Ray, Miss Winnie Goodwin, Miss Dora Gray, Mr. Percy Ames, Mr. Thos. Dixon, and Miss Lucie Caine. Matinée, Friday, 2.

Boors, The Chemists, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, Lord-street; 26, Chapel-street.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. John W. Coulson; S., Miss F. Black; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Whittington.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Charles Draycott's company in "The White Hope." The company includes: Mr. Harry Lang, Mr. Victor Gordon, Mr. Edwin Davies, Mr. Dick Eckersley, Mr. Benson Kleve, Mr. Robert Sawin, Mr. Clavering Maine, Mr. George Miller, Mr. George Maguire, Mr. Charles Richards, Mr. George Bastick. Mr. Howard Denley, Mr. Wilfred Hanstock, Mr. Oliver Renne, Mr. Cecil Mannering, Mr. Robert Wilmot, Mr. Chris Warner, Mr. Fred Hanley, Miss Evie Conway, Miss Violette Vivienne, and Miss Fay Garnet-Vane.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Campbell.—This week (twice nightly) the company includes: Fred Karno's company in "The Hydro," Jack Melville, Jack Murray, Lily F. Griffin, Miss Elsie Killings, F. Westcott, Constance Carmen, W. Armstrong; Spenser Kelly and Marion Wilder and charming pianiste, in melodies past and present; Griff, the original joking juggler; Harry Herbert, comedian; Musical Johnstones, xylophonists; Wallace Lupino, comedian and dancer; and the Bioscope.

Boors, The Chemists, 39, King-street.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. P. Leckie; A. M., Mr. F. Gaffney.—Miss Mary Austin, with Mr. J. Milne Taylor and company, comes to renew her acquaintance with her many friends and to introduce "The Cotton Spinner."

Boors, The Chemists, 85, Market-street.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole O. and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. William Revill.—Mr. Wm. De Lacy's pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," was produced on Christmas Eve, and is the attraction for this week. The cast includes: Mr. Will Hogan, Miss Dorothy Dare, Mr. Frederick F. Lloyd, Messrs. Milne and Wood, Mr. George Millard, Mr. Freddie Frome, Mr. William De Lacy, the Five Weetmans, Miss Amy Osborne, Miss Elsie Fowler, Miss Winnie Morris, Miss Ada Brogden, and Little Edith Hogan.

Boors, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-street Brow.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Travis Green's company in "The Old Wife and the New." The company includes: Fred Barton, Charles Whitlock, Edward Fryer, Claude Aymond, George Gardner, Walter T. Hybert, Walter Gibson, Edith Kirk, Sam Edwards, Ethel Magna France, Maggie Blyth.

Boors, The Chemists, 104 and 105, High-street.

SWANSEA.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. G. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno's revue, "Parlez vous Français?"; Conway George; Haig and Novel, comedy duo; Sammy Shields; and Cornalla and Eddie.

Boors, The Chemists, 1 and 2, Oxford-street; 82, Brynymor-road; 60, High-street; 1, Gwydr-terrace, Uplands; 70, Woodfield-street, Morriston.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Joseph Millane's company in "Margaret, Red Cross Nurse." The company includes: Mr. Joseph Millane, Mr. Villiers Stanley, Mr. Frank Pringle, Mr. Tom Calden, Miss Daphne Grey, Mr. John Summerville, Mr. George Swale, Mr. Frank Austin, Miss Cissie Cleveland, Miss Daisy Stone, Miss Kate Froude, Miss Lena Tarvers, and Miss Florence Tressilian.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Henry Bedford and company in "Gentlemen, the King"; Harry Luck, comedian; Will Allen, comedian; Miller and St. Juste; Harry Bekker, conjurer; Thornton and Wagner; and The Four Swifts.

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Mr. C. W. Carr.—This week (twice nightly): The Three Eltons; Bert Rayburn, comedian; the Marblesque Trio, vocalists; and pictures.

PLAYHOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Sydney Tolfree; A. M., Mr. Harry Heath.—This week (twice nightly): Chas. F. Hill, the dumb droll; Miss Jennie Johns, comedienne; Ted Le Roy, comedian and dancer; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 3, Market-place.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; D. M., Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Marshall.—During the week: Fred Karno's "Steam Laundry," with Harold Wellesley as "Perkins"; Little Freddie Hackin in his scena, "All Change!" Bobbie Thornton, juggler; Archie O'Niel, one-legged dancer; J. C. Padden, cicerone; Huley and Bent, comedy artistes; and Rene and Rousby, in a comedy sketch. On Tuesday evening the theatre has been specially engaged by the Borough Member, Sir Walter Runciman, Bart., M.P., for an entertainment for all soldiers in the Hartlepools, the programme being arranged by and under the direction of Mr. L. Thornton Smurthwaite.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. G. Alderson; M., Mr. W. Capner; Mus. D., Mr. E. B. Arnold.—The turns during the week are: Lirto and Makanoff, operatic vocalists; and Hilda Newsome, comedienne; supplemented by pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-street.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; G. M., Mr. F. G. Kimberley; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—The Christmas attraction here is Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in "Miranda of the Wilds."

EMPIRE.—Sole L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Alex. Galley; Mus. D., Mr. Benjamin Parks.—This week (twice nightly): Friend and Downing; Billy Howard and Katherine Harris; Pinkie Whyte; Kitchen and Roy; Paul Vandy; Alice Craven; and the Acroyd Trio.

Boors, The Chemists, 7 and 8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

YORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; R. M., Mr. Sidney Brooke.—This week (twice nightly): Johnson Clark, ventriloquist; Harry Drew; Les Classiques; Mlle. Laura Novea, soprano; Little Sadie, vocalist and dancer; Constance Mori, comedienne and dancer; Miss Millicent Sadler's company, the Comedy Jovials; Garadini, musician; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists 30, Coney-street.

BIG CIRCUS AT LIVERPOOL.

Last year the big circus at the Liverpool Olympia proved the money-maker of the city, playing twice daily for many weeks; accordingly Moss' Empires were quite justified in making a similar form of entertainment the attraction for the present Christmastide; a wise policy, considering that Liverpool is being flooded with pantomimes.

On Saturday a vast audience filled the immense place which had been completely altered to suit the new requirements, and it must be said that the work has been very efficiently done by Mr. E. W. James and his staff, for it now presents a truly handsome appearance, the comfort of the audience, in being able to see from all points of view having been carefully studied. Everything was bright, cheerful, and clean; in fact, ideal conditions prevailed for thoroughly enjoying a capital show.

The talent engaged had been well chosen, and that the audience were quite satisfied with the programme was shown by

BERT FELDMAN & CO.'S SONGS.

"When Irish eyes are smiling" has been sponsored by the leading vocalists on the halls, and now takes a front place in pantomime with 1917 evidence of phenomenal popularity. Miss Ella Retter is the latest recruit to the army of singers at the Scottish Empire, Glasgow, who are using it, and Miss Ouida MacDermott as principal boy in the Glasgow Royal, and Misses Alma and Lily MacKenzie in the Royal Princess', Glasgow. The ballad is also introduced in "Robinson Crusoe" at the Palace, Blackpool, where it is chorused with hearty favour, and at the Wimbledon Theatre, in "Slabad the Sailor." Miss Ethel Beech makes it the feature of a number, of exceptionally fine vocal efforts. Belfast, of course, has it, Miss Ouida MacDermott as principal boy finding it irresistible.

"We're Irish and proud of it too" is another universal favourite which had its send off, so far as pantomime is concerned, in Glasgow Theatre Royal. Then we have Miss Florrie Forde's superlative attraction, "It takes an Irish heart to sing an Irish song." This is a number in which comedy and sentiment are delightfully blended, and all the pantomime reports class it all.

Worton David and Bert Lee have found another winner in "What's the girl you're going to meet to-night?" At the Borough Theatre, Stratford, Miss Dorothy Ward has a delightful comedy number, which is one of the most popular songs on the programme.

Monton of Edinburgh and the Royal reminds us that "My crooney melody" has had a magnificent reception there, as elsewhere. Miss Souter [redacted] this number in duet-[redacted] finale has fairly [redacted] This is a striking [redacted] to prove one of Feldman's greatest [redacted] was first introduced by Hodges Bros. at Jacobson, and subsequently given very successfully by Miss Adele Crispi in "A Mixed Grill" revue.

"It's a long, long way to Tipperary" is featured in "Jack and the Beanstalk" pantomime at the King's, Edinburgh, by Miss Lily Morris as Jack. One of the most favoured diagers in pantomime, Miss Morris goes one better than her previous best, and carries everyone with her in "Tipperary."

Miss Daisy Bray at the Royal, Edinburgh, has a great reception when she sings Nat D. Ayer's simple and tuneful ballad, "My little cottage." There is much sensible sentiment in this number, which doubtless accounts for its steadily growing popularity. Another of Mr. Ayer's numbers popularly favoured in pantomime is "Beautiful baby doll."

Miss Marie Blanche writes from Leeds: "I'm playing just to tell you' phenomenal success at Grand Theatre here." This is one of Feldman's latest numbers, and assuredly a winner.

Mrs. Prince, of 38, West Derby-road, Liverpool, wishes to acknowledge the excellent results obtained through the apartment column of "The Era," by means of which her rooms have been full for the past ten weeks. She also wishes to thank Mr. Jack Murfayne, of Xylophone fame, and Bells, Beesie, and Jules Terry for kind recommendations.

"KULTUR."

AT THE MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.

Mr. Leonard F. Durell's latest production, "Kultur," a military spectacular water-drama, was presented at the Manchester Hippodrome for the first time on Monday evening, the 21st, to a full house. It is a wonderful performance to go through twice nightly, and it is greatly due to Mr. Durrell's ability as a producer that the first representation went with very few hitches. The representation of a town in Flanders before and after a bombardment being very effective and realistic. Special music has been written and arranged by Mr. J. Barnes and Mr. Joseph England, and the [illegible] costumes are supplied by Mr. W. Charleon.

At the rise of the curtain we see a tableau of a gigantic mailed fist, beneath which lies a huddled heap of women, vainly endeavouring to avoid it. Next we have Justice, with sword and scales, appealing women, and men of the Allied nations answering the call. The play is full of stirring scenes, and the [illegible] Allied nations [illegible] answering we are thrilled by the horrors of war. The [illegible] man and the innkeeper's daughter, the news of the taking of Brussels, and approach of the German, to be shot; but in the meantime the Burgomaster and her father have decided to open the sluice gates. The arrival of a Scottish regiment helps matters, and the Germans, including the two spies, are washed to their doom, and a tableau of Justice and the Allies completes. This final scene is one of the most realistic staged, and is wonderfully well managed.

The company is a good one, Miss Georgina Milne is excellent as Annette, Mr. Cecil Du Gue plays well as Otto Schwiz, the spy, and is ably assisted by Miss Marie Kildare as Helene Schwiz, Mr. Ellis Holland does well as the Englishman, Dudley Howard, and Mr. Charles Cecil (the innkeeper), Mr. Oliver Rogers (the Burgomaster), Mr. Frank G. Carlello, Mr. Gordon Dennis, Mr. Hyam Fay, Mr. E. Chester, Mr. C. Esgrid, are also good. Last, but not least, Mr. Dick Harcourt, as the Book, who does all that is possible with a thankless part, the humour being often out of place and tending to spoil what would otherwise be highly effective incidents. The production will be a big draw.

THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS.

(14TH LIST.)

Clement Barnes, Army Ordnance, Woolwich.
E. Wilfrid Barry (Ivor Barry), Army Veterinary Corps.
Frankiyn Bellamy, 10th Batt. Durham Light Infantry.
F. E. Benson, Sergeant, 14th Service Batt. Hants Regiment.
Harry C. Clark, 3rd Wessex R.A.M.C.
Harold Chaplin, R.A.M.C.
Jack Edmonde (Williams), 3rd Home Counties Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C.
C. Roy Ellison, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery.
Jack Haddon, 1st Sportsman's Batt., Royal Fusiliers.
Miles Hodgson, King's Liverpool (Comrades).
Lieut. Harold Holland.
Colin M. Johnston, 18th Service Batt., Royal Fusiliers.
Thomas C. Lloyd, Royal Navy.
Lieut. Hamilton Macdonald, Expeditionary Force.
Eric Malorin, Lieut. R.F.A.
Robert Maude, 4th Field Ambulance Transport, R.A.M.C.
Arthur Millar, R.A.M.C.
Albert Millward, Warwickshires.
George Moffatt.
M. Partridge, South Wales Borderers, Pembroke Dock.
Kinsey Peile, Lieutenant, Welsh Regiment.
G. A. Place, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery.
Ashley Richards, Sergeant, 10th Middlesex.
Phillip B. Ridgway, Duke of Lancaster's Own Imperial Yeomanry.
Stanley Roberts, Royal Naval Division, Headquarters Staff, Admiralty.
Charles Russell, N.C.O., Royal Field Artillery.
H. G. Taylor, 13th Service Battalion, Welsh Regiment.

CHEERING THE WOUNDED.

"Tommy" in hospital was not forgotten at Christmas time, thanks to the Army and Navy Concert Party, organised and arranged by Mrs. Norman Burrowes, who on Boxing Day, paid their second visit to the 1st London General Hospital, St. Gabriel's College, Camberwell. The A. and N.C.P. gave another of their delightful entertainments to some 300 men. The artistes included the Great Coram. Especially entertaining was Miss L. Rizzi. The Great Coram, the popular ventriloquist, was extremely amusing; and other artistes who contributed to the programme were Mr. Fletcher Thomas, Mr. Harry Denham, Mr. Horace Squire, Mrs. Norman Burrowes, Miss Nellie Comber, and Miss Maude Evans. The next concert—the fourteenth—will be given at the 2nd London General Hospital, St. Mark's College, Chelsea. Major Burrows, it should be added, is second in command of the 7th Service Batt. Loyal North Lancs—not the West Lancs, as stated in our last issue.

To-morrow (Thursday) afternoon, Mr. Mitchell-hill and his co-proprietor will give at Collins's an entertainment to 1,500 poor children of Islington. Tickets were distributed in the four divisions of the borough by the Christmas Dinners Committee.

"PASSING EVENTS."

"Here we are again!" is the refrain of a popular song of the day, and it is a phrase that might well come from Mr. Harry Lee, the proprietor of the Alexandra Hippodrome, Liverpool, for the first week in January, 1915. "The World's Fair," with Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie, famous all over the world, maintains its record of success, and the special engagement with Captain Fred Wombwell presents a programme which for the variety of its attractions and the excellence of the performances is unsurpassed by any other show that may be seen in the provinces. Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie is a comfortable seat secured at an extremely moderate outlay, is again under the special direction of Sir Robert Fossett, representation of a town in Flanders before and after a bombardment being very effective and realistic. Special music has been written and arranged by Mr. J. Barnes and Mr. Joseph England, and the [illegible] costumes are supplied by Mr. W. Charleon.

At the rise of the curtain we see a tableau of a gigantic mailed fist, beneath which lies a huddled heap of women, vainly endeavouring to avoid it. Next we have Justice, with sword and scales, appealing women, and men of the Allied nations answering the call. The play is full of stirring scenes, and the [illegible] Allied nations [illegible] answering we are thrilled by the horrors of war. The [illegible] man and the innkeeper's daughter, the news of the taking of Brussels, and approach of the German, to be shot; but in the meantime the Burgomaster and her father have decided to open the sluice gates. The arrival of a Scottish regiment helps matters, and the Germans, including the two spies, are washed to their doom, and a tableau of Justice and the Allies completes. This final scene is one of the most realistic staged, and is wonderfully well managed.

The company is a good one, Miss Georgina Milne is excellent as Annette, Mr. Cecil Du Gue plays well as Otto Schwiz, the spy, and is ably assisted by Miss Marie Kildare as Helene Schwiz, Mr. Ellis Holland does well as the Englishman, Dudley Howard, and Mr. Charles Cecil (the innkeeper), Mr. Oliver Rogers (the Burgomaster), Mr. Frank G. Carlello, Mr. Gordon Dennis, Mr. Hyam Fay, Mr. E. Chester, Mr. C. Esgrid, are also good. Last, but not least, Mr. Dick Harcourt, as the Book, who does all that is possible with a thankless part, the humour being often out of place and tending to spoil what would otherwise be highly effective incidents. The production will be a big draw.

"Pat à Becket a Piano, and a Pal," a new sketch, was produced by Mr. Albany Ward at his invitation performance to some 3,000 soldiers at the Jubilee Hall, Wermouth, on Christmas Day. The playlet, contained one or two very amusing laughter, contained one or two very amusing songs, "Philip the Fusilier," by Frank Lambert and Pat à Becket, being particularly bright and catchy. The full band of the Royal Scots Regiment added greatly to the success achieved. Pat à Becket subsequently performed at the Military Hospital, the Royal Hospital, and the Workhouse, ending up by repeating his sketch as a smoking concert for the Royal Artillery in the fort.

The week-end patrons at Buxton Gardens have been well looked after in the matter of music. Saturday evening Mr. F. W. Taylor was a fine orchestral concert on Saturday, when there was a good number present, and the opportune moment arrives. But Sanderson's "Up from Somerset"; also a couple of extras. On Sunday evening Mr. F. W. Taylor's "Shipmate o' mine" and Fletcher's "Kitty," both recalled. Ulfert (violin) and Reg. Burgess (pianoforte). Mr. Fred Goddard conducted.

Lush and Cook, Ltd., theatrical cleaners and dyers, of 29, Charing Cross-road, will be quite ready to dye the Kaiser's [illegible] red, white, and blue, when the opportune moment arrives. But their speciality just at the moment is the clean-[illegible] between the shows, a feature which contributes to their reputation.

Mrs. Prince, of 38, West Derby-road, Liverpool, wishes to acknowledge the excellent results obtained through the apartment column of "The Era," by means of which her rooms have been full for the past ten weeks. She also wishes to thank Mr. Jack Murfayne, of Xylophone fame, and Bells, Beesie, and Jules Terry for kind recommendations.

TO AMUSEMENT CATERERS

A. D. ROBBINS
The Cycle Tamer, and Co.
Have featured all the principal Theatres of the World.
Creators of all the most successful feats with the Bicycle and Cycle. Patentees of the following Patents:
Bucking Bicycle. (Pat. No. 1340).
Galloping, Running, and Trotting Bicycle. (Pat. No. 22688)
Rising Generation Cycle. (Pat. No. 22687) and Many Other Novelties.
Everything of my own conception and construction.
Return dates. A guarantee of success.
Re-engaged Everywhere.
Dear Sirs, Have I worked for you? If not, I should like to. If yes, I should like to again If I have Always some New Business To Offer.
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Managers booking imitators should be ashamed to do so, and agents representing imitators—we don't need you.
VACANCIES FOR GOOD TRICK CYCLISTS and POLO PLAYERS.
Communications: A. D. ROBBINS, c/o "The Performer."
NOTICE.
There is nothing obscene in this performance; everything is to amuse. We are also, sensitive mortals.
MANY HAVE COPIED MY COWBOY COSTUME AND TRIED TO IMITATE MY BUSINESS BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS
COMPLIMENTED BY
MANAGERS, ARTISTS, PRESS & PUBLIC AS HAVING THE MOST ORIGINAL CYCLE SHOW EVER SEEN
HAVE PERFORMED BEFORE EDWARD VII WHEN PRINCE OF WALES
CROWN PRINCE OF GERMANY.
QUEEN OF SAXONY
KING OF SWEDEN ETC.
ALSO TRY TO PLEASE MINERS. DUSTMEN, & EVERYBODY. AND GENERALLY SUCCEED.
Sincerely A. D. Robbins
I COULD PUT A THOUSAND PRESS NOTICES IN THIS SPACE BUT IF I DID YOU GOULDN'T READ THEM.
"DERBY"
TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK.

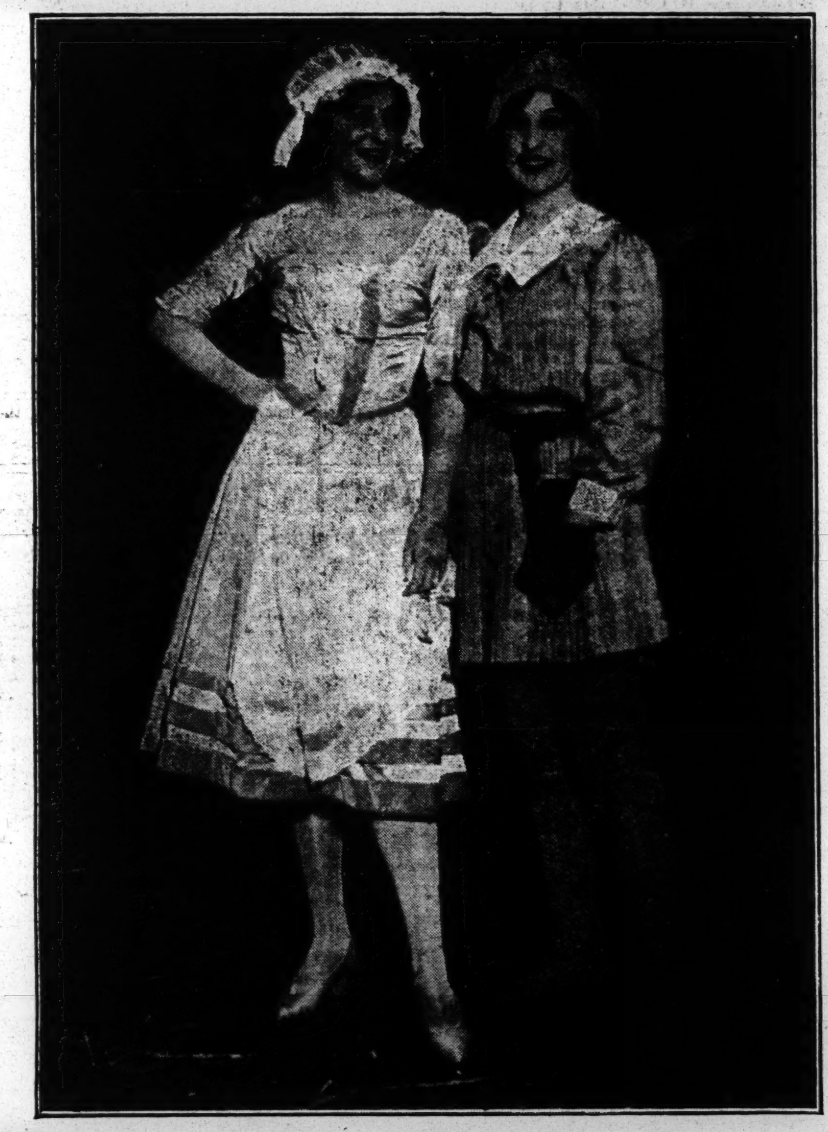
PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

MR. ARTHUR HOLLAND,
Fitzwarren, "Dick Whittington," Dundee.

MISS MAIE ASH,
Principal Girl, T.R., Glasgow.

MR. GEORGE FORMBY,
Ardwick Empire Pantomime.

MISS GLADYS WYSE,
"Mother Goose" Panto., Princess's, Glasgow.



MISS CONNIE EMERALD (Jack), MISS KATHLEEN GORDON (Jill),
His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

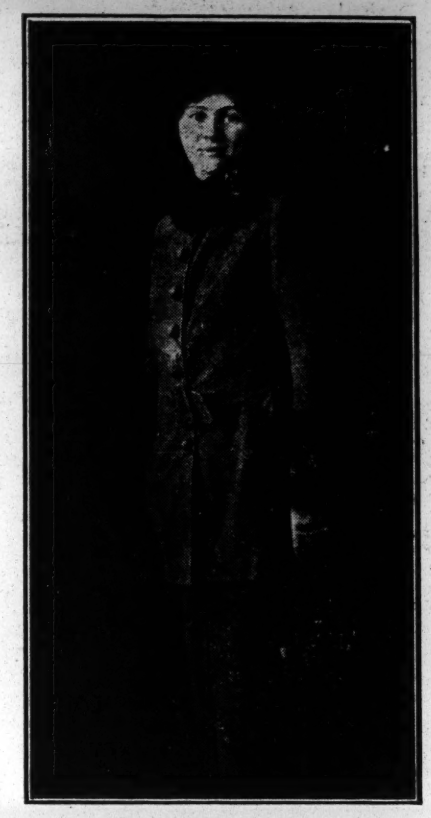
MISS JOSIE DELAINE,
Principal Boy, "Boy Blue," T.R., Nottingham.

BILLY WALTERS,
Idle Jack, "Dick Whittington," King's Theatre, Dundee.

MR. JACK LANE,
Peter Simple, "Little Boy Blue," T.R., Nottingham.

MR. BILLY MERSON,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.



MISS LENNIE HILL.

Principal Girl, "Little Boy Blue," T.R., Nottingham.

MISS NAN CHESTER.

Prince Fearnought, "Jack and Jill," Ardwick Empire.

MISS JESSIE GERRARD.

Princess Bountiful, Ardwick Empire.

MISS MONA MAGNET.

Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

MISS RETTA HALKETT.

Maggie Mackenzie, "Dick Whittington," Dundee.

MISS HETTIE ZILLWOOD.

Principal Boy, "Dick Whittington," Dundee.

[Photo Weston, Folkestone.

MISS NANCY LANGTYRE.

Principal Boy, T.R., Glasgow.

MR. JOHN MACMAHON,

In "Mother Goose," Princess's, Glasgow.

MISS IVEY LATIMER.

Principal Boy, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MISS LOUIE BECKMAN.

Jack, Lyceum Theatre.

MISS BERYL CLIFFORD,

Alice, "Dick Whittington," King's, Dundee.

ALMA.

As Puck, at Portsmouth.

AT LAST.

THE REAL RECRUITING NATIONAL ANTHEM.

"WON'T YOU JOIN THE ARMY?"

By G. R. SIMS and J. M. GLOVER.

DRURY LANE'S SENSATIONAL SUCCESS.

"DAILY TELEGRAPH."

You may have assisted more times than you want to count at that annually tremendous overture on Boxing Night. Still, you make a point of being in tame for the ascent of Mr. "Jimmy" Glover to his throne. This year Renee Mayer wears for one scene khaki, and sings a spirited recruiting song by Mr. Sims and Mr. J. M. Glover which brought down the house.

"DAILY MAIL."

Puck, with attendant sprites in fairy khaki, sings ever so winningly "Won't you, won't you join the Army?" and does the daintiest of dances.

"STANDARD."

Little Miss Renee Mayer is, of course, there again as the delightful Puck, and her new recruiting song, dressed as a sprite in khaki, is a big success.

"DAILY CHRONICLE."

Renee Mayer dons a dainty little khaki suit and sings "Won't you join the Army?"—an irresistably lilting new recruiting song by Mr. Sims himself and Mr. "Jimmy" Glover.

"DAILY NEWS."

This Puck in khaki has now to sing "Won't you join the Army?" and, much to the delight of the audience, forgot an encore verse.

"DAILY GRAPHIC."

Patriotic songs are few but good; Miss Renee Mayer, who is still tiny and no less assured, asks the audience to "Come with us, boys, to Berlin-on-the-Spree."

"DAILY MIRROR."

This song (Renee Mayer's) is a masterpiece.

"MORNING POST."

Her "Won't you join the Army?" is more persuasive than most recruiting songs sung by adults.

"THE GLOBE."

It is true they had to share their triumphs with Puck in a khaki song, "Won't you join the Army?" which gained the greatest applause of a night of cheers and laughter.

"OBSERVER."

Pantomime goers will welcome many old features and rejoice in many new ones—among them certainly Mr. Glover's new masterpiece, the recruiting song, "Won't you join the Army?" sung by Miss Renee Mayer as a duck of a Puck in khaki.

Mr. Glover must have had many proud moments in his varied life, when he has conducted his orchestra in various parts of the globe, but he probably never faced such an audience as he did that afternoon, and to hear her sweet personality and clever acting. To see her as a fairy in khaki was the happiest of ideas under the present circumstances.

"THE TIMES."

Item: Mr. Graves leads toy-soldiers to victory (after little Renee Mayer as Puck in khaki has sung "Won't you join the Army?").

"WESTMINSTER GAZETTE."

Miss Renee Mayer sang the most delightful little recruiting song that could be imagined.

"EVENING STANDARD."

Miss Renee Mayer is there again as Puck, charming as before, and an excellent new recruiting song added to her hold on the audience.

"SUNDAY TIMES."

Little Renee Mayer, the sprightly Puck, literally flings her khaki song—"Won't you join the Army?"—at us. We know its fate; anon all London will sing it, and perhaps Lord Kitchener will have to thank "Jimmy" Glover and Arthur Collins for "more men."

"REFEREE."

To this wonderful little artiste, too—gentle, unaffected, and spirited as ever—is entrusted the new recruiting song, which is undeniably the popular hit of the pantomime. She sings it as a little khaki Puck on parade—a "true-born British fairy" (he really comes from Persia, but has had his naturalisation papers for at least a few thousand years)—and it goes to a rollicking tune of Mr. "Jimmy" Glover's:—

Won't you join the Army? Won't you come with me?
Won't you come with us, boys, to Berlin-on-the-Spree?
Say good-bye to Kate or Nan,
She'll be glad that you're a man,
Won't you, won't you, won't you, won't you, come and join with me?

This one can be wholly grateful, the swinging, melody of a new recruiting song by Mr. J. M. Glover, which Puck in khaki—even as to the wings—sings very pleasantly.

"REYNOLDS'S."

Another successful war hit is Mr. James Glover's recruiting song, "Won't you join the Army?" with a very catchy lilt, capitally sung by little Miss Renee Mayer, who, in this scene, is a khaki-clad Puck.

The hit of the night was the singing of a recruiting appeal by that daintiest of Pucks, little Renee Mayer. "Won't you join the Army?" is its title. Mr. Geo. R. Sims, the poet of patriotism, and J. M. Glover, most resourceful of composers, are responsible for it. Never did Renee Mayer look daintier than in her suit of khaki, and never has Drury Lane echoed to more sincere plaudits. "Won't you join the Army?" was the "clou" of last night's triumphant production; it will, we are certain, very soon be all over London.

Published by
BOOSEY & CO.,
295, Regent-street.

May be sung anywhere and everywhere by anybody and everybody, except in any house of amusement within a four-mile radius of Drury Lane Theatre.

Mr. John Bell, who so ably manages the theatrical department of Messrs. Lush and Cook, was last week presented by the employees with a handsome silver cigar case as a mark of esteem.

An excellent and much appreciated dramatic entertainment was given for the troops by Mr. Clifford Bown, Mr. G. Beresford Innes, Mr. Frank Royde, and Miss Kathleen Leigh at the Church Institute, Slough, on Monday, Dec. 14, and the two succeeding nights. Each night the house was crowded with the Sussex Artillery. The entertainment was under the ægis of Mrs. Edward Compton, "Hook and Eye" and "The Man in the Street" being performed.

"BETTY."

A Musical Play, in Three Acts, by Frederick Lonsdale and Gladys Unger. Music by Paul A. Rubens. Lyrics by Adrian Ross and Paul A. Rubens, and Additional Numbers by Ernest Steffan and Merlin Morgan. Produced by Mr. George Edwardes, at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, for the First Time on Any Stage, on Thursday, Dec. 24.

The Duke	Mr. C. M. Lowne
Gerard	Mr. Vernon Davidson
Jotte	Mr. Mark Lester
David	Miss Daisy Burrell
Victor	Mr. Hugh Henson
Hillier	Mr. Chas. F. Cooke
Lathers	Mr. Cameron Carr
Alf	Master Cyril Doughty
Cedric	Mr. Edmund L. Bradfield
Lord Playne	Mr. G. P. Huntley
Lady Playne	Miss Mary Ridley
Chiquette	Miss Gina Palerme
Estelle	Miss Avice Kelham
Rawlins	Miss Eva Kelly
Betty	Miss Winifred Barnes

It is observable that a certain recipe is employed nowadays in the making of a George Edwardes musical play. It is compounded of the prime elements of love at first sight (or thereabouts), of misunderstanding, separation, and of a final happy enlightenment and reconciliation of the youthful parties. It was so in "The Marriage Market," played in Manchester for six weeks during the last Christmas season, and it is so again in "Betty," which had its première before a vast audience at the Prince's Theatre last Thursday evening. The idea has this inestimable advantage, that it imparts a pleasant and touching sentiment, which is something beside the usual superficial brilliancy of entertainment, it does not encroach unduly, and there can be no question that the audience likes the suggestion of emotional reality, in what is in every sense of the word a "romance."

Betty is kitchenmaid at the house of young Lord Beverley, who is living the wildest of lives, surrounded by guests of whom his ducal father does not approve. Her first introduction to the sumptuous life above stairs is under the escort of a page boy, she pretending in her kitchen dress to be a duchess, and he a lord. The dream comes to an ignominious end, but while the page boy is taken out by the ear, Betty has the advantage of a few minutes' conversation with the kindly-inclined Duke, who is upon the scene for the purpose of enforcing his son's reformation by means of a sensible marriage. He has no idea that his son's choice is to rest upon Betty, when he is forced by threats of disownment to make one. Gerard Beverley's first sight of her occurs when, after what he calls a "recitation" by the Duke, he has been brought upstairs to sing and dance for the edification of his flighty guests. He proposes to her with the object of angering his father, but Betty, "the Duchess of Dreams," taking him seriously, accepts. The marriage takes place next morning. The Duke, meanwhile, swallowing his wrath, quite takes to Betty, and when he finds that Gerard intends to send her away immediately with his housekeeper to Farnham Towers, he changes the disposition of his property in her favour, so that the young lord can obtain his allowance and shelter only through his discarded bride. Love is already apparent in the latter, but it takes months for Beverley to make his way to Farnham Towers for a reconciliation and happiness.

Little touches of pathos add value to the story, and the acting in the leading parts is finely done. In the main, however, comedy is the prevailing note. Even the recklessness of the young lord, sobered as he is by circumstances, has its humour, and it would be hard to imagine a better exponent of Gerard than Mr. Vernon Davidson, with his fine presence, easy stage manner, and accomplished singing. Miss Winifred Barnes gave a very winsome impersonation of Betty, quite capturing everyone's heart, and singing and acting in a style that will be long remembered. Much upon the scene was Mr. G. P. Huntley as Lord Playne, distinctive in manner, as usual, and teeming with the most amusingly inane observations, while he busied himself in affairs. Miss Daisy Burrell as his nephew, David, played very smartly the rôle of a youth about town, not only picking up the hints of his uncle, but anticipating and improving on them. Much interplay of comedy in the various situations was supported also by the effective work of Mr. Mark Lester as Jotte, the dressmaker, accompanied by Miss Avice Kelham as Estelle, first his model and then his wife; while Miss Mary Ridley as Lady Playne gave a finished performance in conjunction with the shortsighted doings of her fatuous husband. Praise must be added for Miss Gina Palerme as the jealous Chiquette, Miss Eva Kelly as Rawlins, the housekeeper, Mr. C. M. Lowne, very dignified and effective as the outraged Duke, Mr. Hugh Henson as Victor, Mr. Chas. F. Cooke as Hillier, Mr. Cameron Carr as Lathers, and Mr. Edmund L. Bradfield as Cedric; while Master Cyril Doughty must not be forgotten as the page boy, Alf, who might well be given more to do. The play, for which a big success is in store, was produced by Mr. Edward Royce, and the augmented orchestra and full chorus are under the direction of Mr. T. M. Tunbridge. For the dresses and staging there is but one word—magnificent.

TRAVELLING FACILITIES RESTORED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have been in communication with the Government Committee on the Prevention and Relief of Distress on the question of theatrical touring companies, suggesting, after consultation with the Touring Managers' Association, that "it would be a kindly act of grace if the Railway Executive Committee would, during the period of the war, remove the charge of 3d. per mile for the truck for scenery and baggage, again granting the requisite 21ft. truck without charge for theatrical companies of 10 passengers, as was the case previous to Aug., 1913."

I am now authorised by the Professional Classes Sub-Committee of the Government Committee to state that the following letter has been received from the Railway Department of the Board of Trade:—

"Dec. 22, 1914.

"Sir,—With reference to your letter of Dec. 2, and to previous correspondence respecting travelling facilities for touring theatrical companies, I am directed by the Board of Trade to state, for the information of your Sub-Committee, that it has now been arranged that during the period of Government control of the railways in Great Britain one truck of scenery accompanied by parties of from ten to thirty-three adult passengers shall be conveyed free.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"(Signed) W. F. MARWOOD."

It is estimated that there are some 250 small theatrical touring companies with an average membership of 12 (thus totalling about 3,000) legitimate actors and actresses. It will be realised, therefore, that this concession will prove of value to a large number of members of the theatrical profession whose work has been affected by the war.—Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK WHELEN.

Mr. Henry M. Grey has been giving most successfully that powerful poem, "The Day," in camp and concert hall in the form of a scena, and makes a striking appearance as the Kaiser.

MISS FERNE ROGERS.

AN INTERVIEW BY PROXY.

"Are you Regent 4546?" enquired a sweet-toned voice. "Yes." "And is that not Mr. —— who is speaking?" "It is." "You may," said Miss Ferne Rogers, "if you wish, come right along and take that interview. I shall then be able to see you for exactly one minute." "But——" "Sixty seconds," gently, but firmly, insisted the speaker "I feel considerably perturbed, but I will be with you in less than half that time." As "The Era" man piloted his trusty biplane through the blinding snow-storm the spirit of Santa Claus descended upon him: and whilst he skimmed over the house-tops he dropped Christmas gifts for good littie boys and girls down all the chimney-pots. Arrived at his destination near the British Museum, and having

MISS FERNE ROGERS
as Beauty, Drury Lane Theatre.

lashed his machine to a holly-bush on the roof garden, the writer descended by way of the sky-light into the cosy flat beneath.

"Hush!" observed Mrs. Ferne Rogers, as the visitor entered the comfortable-looking room, "she is——"

"'The Sleeping Beauty—Beautified,'" whispered the man, as he gazed upon the pretty and charming girl reposing by the fireside. Then the telephone bell whirred insistently, and Miss Ferne Rogers awakened.

"How dreadful! You caught me napping! You see I find two performances a day at the Lane a little strenuous, and so directly we finished our 'phone talk I permitted Morpheus to woo me. Now, that 'one minute' has gone by, and I must go along to the photographer's studio. So please ——" "But——" "'Sixty seconds' you'll remember. I now confide you to the Mater's care," merrily added the young actress. "Au revoir!"

Then Mrs. Rogers explained matters. "Ferne has from the very commencement of her stage career objected to be interviewed. She has quaint ideas of her own—which I have failed to disturb—upon the subject; and so, as you have just heard her suggest, shall we have an interview by proxy?" "Quite a good idea! I am entirely at your service."

"As I think you know, this is not my daughter's first visit to London. She appeared at the Court Theatre in 'The Missing Maid' about two years ago, and then went on tour with this piece. She then returned to New York to fulfil other engagements.

"But one definition of the word interim is, I think, in theatrical parlance, the history of one's stage career. So I had better commence quite at the beginning. Ferne was born in the State of Connecticut. As soon as she had finished at college she took up concert work. After studying for a short time under various professors it was decided that she should combine her vocal abilities with a stage career. She appeared in several musical comedy pieces, and made, may I say, quite a success. In 'The Belle of New York' Ferne played Edna May's part, and she also scored greatly as Angel Didier in 'The Count of Luxembourg'; and you will see in these leading New York journals the eulogistic criticisms respecting her appearance in the two plays.

"Ferne next appeared as principal in Robert W. Chambers's 'Iole.' I believe this is the only work of the famous author's which has been staged. He was also responsible for the lyrics. It was a charming production, and my daughter made another great success in it. The piece finished its run in March of the present year. By the way, am I making this proxy interview difficult for you?" "On the contrary, would that many of the daughters of Thespis I meet possessed—may I say it?—such charming mothers, with equal facility of expression."

"Sir, I thank you for those words. To continue: We next visited Europe, and Ferne fulfilled several weeks' highly successful engagements in vaudeville in various Continental capitals. We arrived in London in the early autumn, so that Ferne could fulfil her engagement with Mr. Alfred Butt for the revue 'By Jingo.' As she was already under contract to appear at Drury Lane, she could only remain in the revue up to the time that the pantomime rehearsals commenced. Do you like her in 'The Sleeping Beauty Beautified?' "I think her conception of the part of the Princess is particularly clever, dainty, and captivating, and her singing most charming." Well, I must confess," concluded Princess's mother, "that I feel exceedingly gratified with the splendid notices Ferne has received in all the principal London journals; and may I thank the 'Era's' representative for his kind visit?"

"PETER PAN" AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S.

Peter Pan	Miss Madge Titheradge
Jas. Hook	Mr. E. Holman Clark
Mr. Darling	Mr. Donald Calthrop
Mrs. Darling	Miss Madge Murray
Wendy Moira Angela Darling	Miss Hilda Trevelyan
John Napoleon Darling	Mr. Roy Royston
Michael Nicholas Darling	Mr. Elyot Hawkins
Nana	Mr. Edgar Pleon
Tinker Bell	Miss Jane Wren
Tootles	Miss Gertrude Lang
Nibs	Miss Marjorie Graham
Slightly	Mr. A. W. Baskcomb
Curly	Miss Prudence Bourchier
First Twin	Miss Doris McIntyre
Second Twin	Miss Nancy Pawley
Smee	Mr. George Shelton
Gentleman Starkey	Mr. Ben Field
Cookson	Mr. Charles Medwin
Mullins	Mr. William Harberd
Cecco	Mr. William Luff
Jukes	Mr. James English
Noodler	Mr. Frederick Leister
Great Big Little Panther	Mr. Humphrey Warden
Tiger Lily	Miss Margaret Fraser
Mermaid	Miss Dora Sevening
Baby Mermaid	Miss Moya Nugent
Liza	Miss Moya Nugent
Crocodile	Messrs. F. W. Cecil and D. Rose
Ostrich	Mr. Gordon Carr

"Peter Pan," as daintily delightful and humorous as ever, was revived at the Duke of York's on Thursday afternoon; and Sir James Barrie's Christmas classic met with the customary cordial reception from a crowded house. Handkerchiefs were waved and flowers were showered upon the principals at the conclusion; and the curtain had to be repeatedly raised in the scene of Peter's house in the tree tops, ere the audience would leave the theatre.

It is always a joy to renew acquaintance with "the boy who wouldn't grow up," and added interest was given the revival by the appearance of a new Peter, that accomplished young actress, Miss Madge Titheradge, making a prepossessing and alert hero, and acting with feeling and power where necessary. Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Wendy, that most sympathetic and human "little mother," is fortunately available to repeat a most charming and perfect performance; and Mr. E. Holman Clark is again seen as the terrible Captain Hook, a most delicious burlesque of stage villainy. Mr. Donald Calthrop easily realises the part of Mr. Darling, and the loving mother, Mrs. Darling, is naturally played by Miss Madge Murray. The high-spirited John Napoleon and Michael Nicholas Darling are acted with delightful freshness by Master Roy Royston and Master Elyot Hawkins; and the faithful Nana is cleverly enacted by Mr. Edgar Pleon.

Mr. George Shelton repeats his droll impersonation of Smee; Mr. Ben Field adds considerably to the merriment by his humorous portrayal of Gentleman Starkey; and the other pirates are effectively played by Messrs. Charles Medwin, William Harberd, William Luff, James English, and Frederick Leister. Mr. A. W. Baskcomb returns after an interval of some years to play the melancholy and laconic Slightly, a very humorous performance; and the more joyous and alert members of Peter's band in the "Never Never Land" are delightfully and enthusiastically enacted by Miss Gertrude Lang, Miss Marjorie Graham, Miss Prudence Bourchier, Miss Doris McIntyre and Miss Nancy Pawley. Mr. Humphrey Warden and Miss Margaret Fraser again do admirably as Great Big Little Panther and Tiger Lily; Miss Moya Nugent repeats her whimsical performance of the quaint little Liza; and other parts are all satisfactorily accounted for. "Peter Pan," which is produced under the expert direction of Mr. Dion Boucicault, is to be played at matinées daily, and on Thursday and Saturday evenings.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

On Saturday, Dec. 26, the Comedy entitled "A PAIR OF SILK STOCKINGS."

This popular house was crowded at both performances on Boxing Day, when Mr. Charles Steuart's strong company presented "A Pair of Silk Stockings," which was heartily received. Mr. Charles Steuart is an old favourite with Windsor audiences, and as Sam Thornhill he again scores in a humorous delineation. Mr. Claud Allister plays the part of Captain Bagnal with excellent judgment and point; Mr. Cyril Melton is an effective exponent of Sir John Gower; Mr. Clifford Cobbe represents Mr. MacIntyre with marked ability; Mr. Edge Rowe does well as Mr. Brook; Mr. Duncan Druce is a capital Morgan, the butler; whilst Wilson and The Tramp are well filled by Messrs. John Melrose and Kaye Brudell. Miss Jane Comfort gave a charming performance of Molly Thornhill; Miss Dorothy Overend acts cleverly as Irene Maitland; Miss Aline Staveley comes in for much appreciation for her Lady Gower; the Pamelia Bristowe of Miss Phyllis Stuckey displays careful study; Miss Nancy Raeburn as Angela Bruce acts with distinction; and Parker, the maid, is carefully handled by Miss Berenice Broadway. The comedy is preceded by a smartly-written one-act play by the Marchioness of Townshend, entitled "Sir John and the Couturière."

Mr. Henry George Hibbert, one of the best known and oldest of dramatic critics, commenced writing about theatres and halls as a local correspondent for "The Era," and was for many years a valued member of its staff. He tells us that it was twenty-five years since he presented himself to London, and to the office of "The Sunday Times" as its acting editor. In that quarter of a century, says the present editor of that paper, he has done countless columns of good work. May he be long spared to write countless columns more! Mr. Hibbert has had a very varied and highly successful journalistic career. He has served with distinction on many papers, has written nearly 1,000 articles for "The Era," and is the London correspondent of the "New York Clipper," one of the most interesting vaudeville newspapers published anywhere.

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CRESSIE LEONARD.

A Pantomime Favourite.

Secures a Great Success in "RED RIDING HOOD," at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

CRESSIE LEONARD.

A FEW PRESS OPINIONS.

"The Liverpool Courier," Dec. 28th, 1914.

"The cast, though small, is a very competent one. It is headed by Miss Cressie Leonard as Prince Valiant. Miss Leonard is a charming principal boy in every sense of the term. She plays with singular grace, and she sings with an equal degree of acceptableness. Among her most successful contributions were a couple of Irish airs, 'Shure we're Irish,' and 'Irish Eyes,' and a patriotic song, 'Where are the lads of the village to-night?'"

"The Liverpool Umpire," Dec. 27th, 1914.

"Cressie Leonard's Success: The question of Miss Leonard's success can be answered in a way flattering to the artiste. In her part of Prince Valiant, Miss Cressie Leonard comes amongst old friends, for her last comparatively recent presence in Liverpool pantomime is pleasantly remembered. She is on the way to make new admirers by her contribution to this production."

"The Liverpool Daily Post," Dec. 28th, 1914.

"As Prince Valiant, who takes the place of the traditional woodman, Miss Cressie Leonard acts and sings with dashing confidence."

Miss Cressie Leonard relinquished her part (now taken by Miss Ellaline Terriss at the Lyric Theatre) in the successful revival of "The Earl and the Girl" at the Aldwych Theatre, to fulfil her Liverpool engagement.

All Communications c/o "THE ERA."

"ALADDIN" AT ALEXANDRA, BIRMINGHAM.

Mr. Leon Salberg, thanks to Mr. Herbert Barnes, his producer, and an all-round company of talented artistes, has scored another triumph at this popular house of pantomime, and there is little doubt that the traditions of the theatre will be fully maintained, and very likely records established. There are two outstanding features in the production, the first being the exceptional brilliance and arrangement of the scenery and dresses; and, secondly, the company is comprised of artistes who are out to make names, and their opportunities are golden. "Aladdin" is a bright and breezy pantomime, full of fun and gaiety abounding with attractive melodies, and admirably selected songs, and the orchestration throughout is worthy of special mention. The book is by Mr. Joseph L. Barry, and the story is presented in a most convincing manner without affecting in the slightest degree the individual selections by the artistes or the strong element of comedy which gives scope for much originality.

Four of the outstanding scenes are "The Peerless Palace of Porcelains," "The Port of Yokohama," "The Market Place of Pekin," and "Geni's Realm of Riches," and these are arranged on a most magnificent scale. In the opening scene there is an abundance of humour, in which Norman and Allan (Chinese Policemen) soon establish themselves. The first song, "I just want you," is beautifully rendered by Miss Christine Rona (Pekoe), a pretty young lady who should make many friends. The entrance of Miss Mona Magnet (Aladdin) was the signal for a remarkable outburst of applause, and after her skilful rendering of "If it's a lady, thumbs up" her success was assured. This young lady, who is one of the youngest principal boys in the country, displayed unusual talent, her piquant manner and delightful touches of humour making her an ideal Aladdin.

Miss Ennis Lawson, as the beautiful Princess, scores a great success in her opening number, "Irish eyes," and both she and Aladdin are to be warmly complimented upon their beautiful duet, "Love me while the loving is good." In this scene Abanazar (Mr. Edwin Dodds) proves himself to be a capable comedian; and Sid Dean (Widow Twanky) has a humorous song, "The village serio." Another attractive item is a Scotch dance by the Lottie Stone Troupe of Girls attired in kilts. On the way to the cave Miss Dot Fra makes her appearance, and scores with 'I love him, Oh! Oh! Oh!" and after another comedy number, "I'd like to be a—," by Abanazar. Once inside the cave, the audience are in a spell of enthusiasm while Aladdin gains possession of the lamp. Here Miss Magnet renders in a most accomplished manner the delightful ballad, "Love is king of everything," and the gorgeous picture, "The Home of Jewels," calls for rapturous applause. The Bath scene is brim full of comedy, in which George Franklin (Wishee-Washee) is to the fore with "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers." Wishee has previously been transformed into a Lancashire lad by Abanazar, and the rôle is one that he soon made an unqualified success.

In "The Port of Yokohama" the Yale Sextette of male voices are effectively introduced, and after another comedy duet, "Kissing," by Norman and Allan, Abanazar again gets on good terms with "I do like a s'nice s'mince s'pie." This is followed by the entrance of the Emperor (Mr. Frank Probin), who is the possessor of a powerful and impressive baritone voice, and his rendering of "Live in the light of your eyes" shows that he is playing no small part in the success of the pantomime. The enthusiasm of the audience is again roused by the presentation of the ballet and the dance of the Cherry Blossoms. Here the music is particularly fine, and the dances of the Lottie Stone Troupe and the Lestella Gadsby Troupe and the work of the ballet is much appreciated. Outside the Widow's Laundry there is an abundance of comedy, in which Widow Twanky appears as the Postmistress. In the Widow's Laundry there is a delightful opening chorus by laundrymen and maids, followed by another excellent speciality by Norman and Allan.

Arriving at Aladdin's Palace, the Princess introduces the first military song, "Kiss me goodbye, my little soldier boy," in which she is supported by a troupe of girls in khaki uniform. Widow Twanky returns to amuse with his song, "When they get old," and there follows one of the most delightful items in the production, Aladdin being cheered for her artistic rendering, "I do kind o' feel I'm in love."

With such a cast it would be unfair to individualise, but, apart from the principals, mention must be made of Ernie Bewsey, who is funny throughout as the Vizier; Miss Jacque Deering, whose portrayal of Lardi-Doo is very dainty and clever; and Miss May Tinsley, who is a charming Fairy.

Mr. W. Steele Jones, who has been responsible for the mechanism part of the production, is to be warmly complimented; and good work has been done by Mr. Reginald Cooper, the stage manager, and Mr. J. Steele, electrician. Mr. W. T. Guest, the popular manager, is working assiduously; and responsible duties are also upon the shoulders of Miss E. Powell, secretary.

"A TRIP TO CHICAGO," AT THE LOWESTOFT HIPPODROME.

Under the most favourable auspices, the successful musical burlesque, in two acts, "A Trip to Chicago," commenced its provincial tour at the Lowestoft Hippodrome before a crowded audience on Boxing Day. The company which Mr. Fred Fowler has brought to Lowestoft is exceptionally well balanced, and the bright and tuneful music, coupled with the smart acting and clever dancing by the Garrick Girls, all go to make up a thoroughly good show, in which the maximum amount of fun is extracted. The dressing and scenery are complete in every detail, and Mr. Fowler may look with some degree of confidence to a successful "trip" round the provinces.

As already mentioned, Mr. Fowler is strongly supported. His Charley Bleeter is one of the best character sketches seen here for some time, and there is laughter loud and long whilst he holds the boards. Also included in the cast are the Misses Queenie Taylor, Marjorie Monice, and Mary Collier, three charming representatives of their respective parts. Messrs. Herbert Sealby, Maurice Love, Arthur H. Gilbert, Jack Callan, and Sinclair Holden are also in the bill and very materially add to the general success.

The "Post Office London Directory," issued by Kelly's Directories, Ltd., reaches with 1915, its 116th annual edition. The volume becomes more and more indispensable as the years go by, and the care with which it is compiled in order to make it as complete, reliable, and as up-to-date as possible renders it invaluable. In spite of obvious difficulties, the publication was only two days later than last year. The trend of the times is shown in the selection from the list of new trade headings that have been introduced, including those of airship manufacturers, automatic fire hydrant makers, cinematograph film exporters, first aid outfits, and publicity consultant. The cloth map of London which the "Directory" contains is, as usual, not the least important of its many valuable features.

PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

MR. FRED. BARNES.

The Prince, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. HORACE MILLS

As Mrs. Tutt, T.R., Manchester.

MISS JEANNETTE SHERWIN.

Titania, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MISS MABEL HARLEY.

Principal Girl, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

[Photo, Campbell Gray.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE

As Dick Whittington, at the Palladium.

MISS LUNA LOVE,

Principal Girl, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MISS OLIVE SLOANE.

Principal Boy, Princess's, Glasgow.

MISS MOLLY McCARTHY.

Alice, Grand Theatre, Hull.

MISS HILDA STUART.

"Lady Slavey."

MISS ALICE WYATT.

Robinson Crusoe, Grand Theatre, Hull.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT SHEFFIELD.

Mr. John Hart added on Christmas Eve another successful pantomime to the long list of spectacular triumphs produced at the historic Theatre Royal. The present version of the adventures of Sir Richard Whittington was written by the late Hickory Wood, and it follows the well-known sequence of events, with seasonable "trimmings" in the shape of comic interludes, dazzling scenic effects, brilliant ballets, and catchy songs.

At the rise of the curtain the attention of the audience is arrested by an effective representation of the house-tops of mediæval London, with a laughable Wagnerian chorus by feline revellers. A vision of Dick and his luck-bringing pussie is very effective; and after the usual argument between Fairy Blue Belle and King Rat there is a quick change to Fitzwarren's shop in Cheapside. In this and the succeeding scene the leading characters are introduced, and the house is put into a most joyous mood by a rapid succession of comicalities, lively songs, smart dances, and some good old pantomime business, in which the faithful "Mouser" figures largely, to the intense delight of the children. Next comes the traditional and always eagerly anticipated Highgate Hill episode, the chef d'œuvre of a production that will be notable in local theatrical annuals for admirable scenic surprises. The realistic "building up," combined with a loving fidelity to Nature in her most charming mood, has all the advantage of perfect lighting, and the culminating phase of the picture shows Old London in the distance bathed in the early sunbeams, with fairies grouped around Dick and his Cat, and the enthusiastic applause of the audience mingling with the distant peals of Old Bow bells. The first part concludes with the inspiriting "sailing of the ship"—another triumph of artistic display and mechanical ingenuity.

The curtain next goes up on the Palace of the Sultan of Morocco, a gorgeous scene full of colour and architectural grandeur. An opening chorus à la grand opera is followed by a dreamy ballet of gorgeously dressed odalesques. Dick and the other characters appear, and "Mouser" kills the rats, to the delight of the dusky potentate, and the hero is enriched. A droll interlude, "The Dog Fanciers," follows a pretty scene, the Fairy Lake; and the final spectacle, the Lord Mayor's Pageant, is an effective conclusion to the series of scenic delights.

On the opening night the annual went quite smoothly, thanks to the untiring efforts of Mr. Reginald Hunt-Firth, the producer; Mr. Chas. Jenner, his able aide-de-camp; Mr. A. Green, the musical director; and a good all-round company of loyal artistes. Miss Lilian Major was an ideal principal boy. Her graceful figure was admirably displayed in her picturesque costumes, and her acting was instinct with feminine charm and vivacity. Her excellent rendition of "Baby doll," "My heart beats all for you," and "Where are the boys of the village to-night?" won the unanimous plaudits of the house. Miss Elsie Malpas was a pretty, tuneful, and dainty representative of Alice Fitzwarren, and her songs, "A cosy corner for two," "Love me" (duet), &c., were heartily cheered, as was her graceful dance. Miss May Warden was a tall and graceful Fairy Blue Bell, and her song, "When Irish eyes are smiling," was enthusiastically applauded. The Princess was excellently portrayed by Miss Phyllis Ferguson, who has a tuneful voice; and Miss Lillian Denville was a chic and vivacious Tommy, the 'Prentice. Her step-dancing was thoroughly appreciated, and her featured song, "Sammy," was loudly encored. The comedians were all good, Mr. Harry Dent as Idle Jack creating roars of laughter with his patter, gags, and remarkable changes of dress. His principal ditties, "When the band plays in the park" and "It's my birthday to-night," brought down the house. He has undoubtedly "struck oil" with the Royal habitués. Mr. Lawrence Anarto made a success as Fitzwarren, and was very amusing in his comic song, "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers." The Cook was a "giddy young thing" as represented by the diverting eccentric comedian, Mr. Arthur Anarto. Mr. Harry Rignold won the hearts of young and old with his wonderful fidelity to Nature in his impersonation of the Cat and his amusing performance of a dog. Mr. Edward Curtis was a dramatic Sultan of Morocco, and Mr. Donald Gulland was an imposing and vocalistic King Rat. Messrs. Fame and Fortune caused roars of laughter in their boxing and tumbling eccentricities as the two comic Shell-backs. Miss Louie Niemann as Rose was pretty and piquant, and the Eight Moonshine Girls were very popular. If a splendid show, stamped with the genuine plaudits of crowded audiences, be an omen of success, Mr. John Hart's "Dick Whittington" will have a long and prosperous run.

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND" AGAIN.

The old-world fantasy of Lewis Carroll's charming work is allied to up-to-date scenic embellishments in the revival of "Alice in Wonderland," which Messrs. Stedman are presenting at the Savoy, and one finds a submarine scene in which, by means of an ingenious shadowgraph arrangement, live members of the finny tribe appear to be disporting themselves in the vasty deep. The revival is elaborately staged by Messrs. Stedman, who have drawn upon all the large resources of their well-known academy to provide suitable representatives, remarkably proficient dancers, and tuneful singers. The lobster ballet and the flower ballet are extremely pretty.

An Alice who has formerly found favour in the part is seen in Miss Ivy Sawyer, who acts gracefully and with engaging simplicity. Her fresh young voice sounds pleasingly in the songs which fall to her share, and the ease and grace of her pirouetting is admired. Honours for dancing are also taken by Miss Vera Clark, who is likewise expert on her toes. As the Oyster Queen, she furnishes a fascinating pas seul, and is ably assisted by Mr. Reg. Vickers, a very nimble Guardian of the Shell Throne.

The Mad Hatter is Mr. Franklin Vernon, who works indefatigably, and reaps a reward in many laughs. Mr. James Harcourt secures the proper lugubrious effect as the Mock Turtle, and his companion Gryphon is drolly played by Mr. Leedam Stanley. The comedians mentioned are also associated in the more boisterous fun of Tweedledum and Tweedledee. Miss Amy Fanchette is the quaintest Duchess and Red Queen imaginable, and Miss Evelyn Hill as the Queen of Hearts and the White Queen is commendable in each. Mr. Percy Davidson is a duly aggressive King of Hearts, and Mr. Robert Macnamara is a grim Executioner. Miss Nora Edwards as the March Hare, Miss Vera Hamilton as the White Rabbit, and Mr. Roy Lorraine as the Caterpillar, contribute valuably to the effect of the performance. Miss Violet Denzel as the First Fairy and First Lobster once again proves her skill as a dancer, Miss Bertha Tcharna is a merry and bright Cheshire Cat, and Miss Herme Hilair is a quaint Dormouse. "Alice in Wonderland" is a piece inseparable from the festive season, and Messrs. Stedman are to be congratulated upon the excellence of its mounting and interpretation.

["The Era" has a larger circulation than that of any other theatrical or variety journal published in the United Kingdom.]

GENERAL

TO THEATRE MANAGERS.

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ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER,
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TOURING THE TRENCHES.

A bright page in theatrical annals is being written this week by the visit paid to France by a distinguished company of "stars," who are providing a few brief hours of delight for our soldiers in the theatre of war. The conception of the idea, which has the full approval of the authorities, is due to Miss Ellaline Terriss and its carrying out to her husband, Mr. Sey. our Hicks, who has got together a company the attractiveness of which it would be hard to equal.

The bill of the play, which has been posted on all available hoardings in the "area of operations" is of quite historical interest, and well justifies reproduction here.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE
at
"AT THE FRONT."
A Tent. A Roadside. A Hospital.
Anywhere.
SOLDIERS.

Fellow-countrymen of whom we are so proud and to whom we owe so much,
by permission of
FIELD-MARSHAL EARL KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM, O.M., G.C.S.I., &c.,
Secretary of State for War,
and with the permission of
FIELD-MARSHAL SIR JOHN FRENCH, O.M., K.C.M.G., &c.,
Commander-in-Chief of the British Expeditionary Force,
We, your brothers and sisters, have come over from England to try and entertain and amuse you during the New Year's week and to bring you
"A MESSAGE FROM HOME."
You have only to command us and we shall be proud to give you the best entertainment in our power:
AT ANY TIME
and
AT ANY PLACE.
The party will consist of your old and affectionate friends:

ELLALINE TERRISS, WILL VAN ALLEN,
BEN DAVIES, ELI and OLGA HUDSON
GLADYS COOPER, SEYMOUR HICKS,
WILLIE FRAME, and
IVY ST. HELIER, THE KINEMATOGRAPH.

HERE WE ARE!!! HERE WE ARE!!! HERE WE ARE AGAIN!!! It's a LONG, LONG WAY TO TIPPERARY, BUT NOT TOO FAR FOR US, BLESS YOU!!!

ELLALINE TERRISS: Will sing more sweetly and act more charmingly than ever for you.
SEYMOUR HICKS: Will perspire more freely.
BEN DAVIES: Will sing as he never sang before.
GLADYS COOPER: Will act and look more like her postcards than they do.
IVY ST. HELIER: Will delight you as she has always done.
WILLIE FRAME: Will make you laugh as much in France as he does in Bonnie Scotland, Och Aye!
WILL VAN ALLEN: Will patter and play all day.
ELI AND OLGA HUDSON: Well! You know how you love to hear them.
KINEMATOGRAPH: Will show you thousands of feet of amusing films.

COME IN, SOLDIERS.
AS MANY OF YOU AND OFTEN AS YOU LIKE.

You will confer a favour on us by letting us work for you and the angels in disguise—the brave ladies who nurse you. Ask them to honour us with their presence also.

GOD SAVE THE KING,
GOD PROTECT YOU AND YOUR BRAVE ALLIES,
LONG LIVE ENGLAND,
VIVE LA FRANCE,
and
BRAVO, BRAVE BELGIUM!
THE PRICE OF ADMISSION
IS OUR GRATITUDE TO YOU!

The company started on their mission of amusement from Victoria shortly before 1 o'clock on Sunday. The station was crowded with people who had come to wish the party God-speed, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Arthur Playfair, and Mr. Ben Davies's son (who has just received a commission in the Army) being among a large number of members of the theatrical profession present.

Just before the train left the crowd in the station increased in density, the number being largely reinforced by officers and men either going or returning to the front. Naturally, the National Theatre Company train was the chief centre of attraction, and as it steamed slowly out of the station the crowd, which lined the platform several deep, gave the party a hearty send-off by vociferously cheering and waving hats and handkerchiefs.

The travelling arrangements for the party for France demanded no small amount of time and attention, many difficulties being overcome by the kindly aid of friends. The luggage was in perfect tabloid form, whilst the portable piano trouble was remedied by Messrs. Cramer fixing up on motor-cars two portable pianos. Six motor-cars were taken from England, and several others are being supplied by the military authorities on the other side. Mr. W. H. Boardman is acting as manager of the tour.

Arrived at Boulogne on Sunday night, the party found the quay crowded with soldiers, who, as soon as they caught sight of Mr. Hicks and his companions, gave a rousing cheer, which was taken up enthusiastically by the people behind, and renewed again and again.

The company lost no time in getting to work, and a couple of hours after arrival took the stage—a temporary one—in what is known in peace time as the Baccarat Room of the Casino, now labelled "No. 13 Stationary Hospital." In front of the stage, which was draped with the flags of the Allies, were many rows of beds, each containing a wounded soldier, among whom Miss Gladys Cooper distributed New Year cards, bearing the autograph of each member of the company.

The programme opened with a pianoforte duet by Miss Terriss and Miss Ivy St. Helier, which was vociferously applauded. Then Mr. Will Van Allen played the violin and banjo, and told funny stories, for which he never had a more appreciative audience.

No. 3 was Mr. Hicks himself, who diverted the audience with "Some do it this way and some do it that way," and then made room for Mr. Willie Frame, the Scotch comedian, who told some of his choicest stories, and gave a little recitation from Burns. The rich voice of Mr. Ben Davies was then heard in "My dreams," which was followed by the old favourite, "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," and the popular tenor was succeeded by Miss Ellaline Terriss, who gave her up-to-date version of "A Little Bit of String," and followed it with "Your country thanks you," the patriotic lyric with which she made us familiar during her recent appearance at the Coliseum. Miss Ivy St. Helier sang "Mary, of Tipperary" and "Daddy's sweetheart" with all her customary charm, and Mr. Eli and Miss Olga Hudson gave a selection of their artistic instrumental duets. "Auld lang syne" and a verse of the National Anthem, sung by the artistes and audience, concluded the first performance propitiously.

The following day the British Concert Party proceeded to Wimereux, a pretty little place, about a mile along the coast, and there entertained a similar audience in the Casino. Three shows were given on Monday in different hospitals, and the remainder of the week the company will, to use Mr. Hicks' own words, "stop and sing at any old place or at any old time—if the authorities will let us."

It is announced that on the return of the party the performance given abroad will be repeated at one of the biggest amusement houses in London, and that the profits will be devoted, half to theatrical charities and half to the fund for purchasing waterproof shelters for the troops in training in England.

The Gibbon Duo had quite a busy time while at the Opera House, Dunfermline, last week. On Christmas Day they appeared at a flying matinée at the Gaiety, Leith, in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund, and next evening between the houses paid a hurried visit to headquarters of 7th Blythswood Highland Infantry, stationed at Dunfermline, there to give an impromptu and much-appreciated performance for the soldiers' benefit.

"LONGSHOREMAN BILL."

New Sketch, by Fred Rome. Produced on Monday, Dec. 28, at the Coliseum.

Mrs. Bunting ..... Miss Buena Bent
George Harris ..... Mr. Sidney Young
William Sprott ..... Mr. Alfred Lester

Amongst the lighter Christmas productions is the new sketch staged at the Coliseum on Monday, and played by Mr. Alfred Lester and company. The principal character in the piece is Wm. Sprott, a boatman, otherwise known as "Longshoreman Bill," his place of residence being Barking Creek. A favourite resort of Bill's is "The Anchor Inn," which has a new and very attractive landlady in the person of comely Mrs. Bunting. Hither come the boatman and his partner, George Harris, to spend a social hour. The last-mentioned jumps to the conclusion that the new landlady is a widow, and Bill at once decides to court her. His first step is to make her a present of a stuffed fish of remarkable appearance, and when his partner reports that the lady is reading a book about pirates, and in answer to a question mentions "her Jack," who has departed this life, Bill remains no longer in doubt as to her being a widow, and proceeds to boast of the atrocities he committed as a pirate. He borrows half a sovereign from George to pay for drinks, also makes an attempt to acquire a more venerable appearance by whitening his hair, but when at length the supposed widow explains that the book she has been reading is about parrots, and not pirates, and that she is expecting her husband home very shortly, Bill receives quite a nasty shock, and having partially recovered, walks off with the stuffed fish.

Mr. Alfred Lester submits a delightfully humorous portrayal of the boatman, whose matrimonial design is so quickly nipped in the bud, and the popular comedian is certain, in due course, to give further effective touches to what is already a really comic character sketch. Mr. Sidney Young is excellent as George Harris, and Miss Buena Bent is bright and attractive as the landlady of the inn.

THE STAR CO.'S SONGS.

Phenomenal indeed is the success of the Star Co.'s songs in the pantomimes of London this season. At the Aldwych, in "Cinderella," Julia James has made the hit of the pantomime with "Kiss me good-bye, soldier boy," which wins repeated encores. Daisy Bartholomew, the smart Dandini of the same production, sings "You do do a lot of funny things," with ineffable spirit and dash, while several other Star songs also win acclaim in this highly successful annual.

In Newman Maurice's fine Brixton Theatre pantomime, the principal vocal successes are "Wonderful rose of love," "I'll make you want me," "Sammy, come over here," "You do do a lot of funny things," "Kisses," "I do like a s'nice s'mince s'pie," and "In Japanese Butterfly land," all of which are published by the Star Co.

Dainty Daisy Dormer, principal girl in John Hart's "Goody Two-shoes," at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, has achieved an enormous success with "Kiss me good-bye, soldier boy," while "Sammy, come over here" is also a very big hit with this bewitching little lady, who is further heard in "If I thought you loved me," which she duettises with Lupino Lane. This agile gentleman wins plaudits loud and long for his excruciatingly funny rendering of "I do like a s'nice s'mince s'pie." All four of these are Star songs.

In F. W. Wyndham's "King Cole," at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, the undoubted hit of the pantomime is "I'll make you want me," as rendered by Clara Beck. Artistic to a degree is this lady's conception of this ballad, and never have the Liverpudlians shown greater appreciation.

Myra Hammon, at the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, has made a sensational success with the Star Co.'s two great ballads, "Wonderful rose of love," and "I'll make you want me," both of which she renders in such style as to win the vociferous acclaim of all auditors. There is hardly a pantomime in the whole of these islands in which these two numbers do not reign paramount favourites.

In J. F. Elliston's "Mother Goose," at the Royalty Theatre, Chester, the Sisters Gaye are tremendously successful with their fine duet number, "You've got me and I've got you."

Two of the biggest hits in the Grand, Manchester, pantomime are Victoria Campbell's songs, "Wonderful rose of love," and "Au revoir, my own sweet Marguerite." Two other big successes in the same pantomime are "I do like a s'nice s'mince s'pie," and "I'd like to be a ——." All of these are Star songs.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

A fine holiday programme is being presented at the Kingston Empire this week, and there have been good houses at each of the twice-nightly performances. Prominent in the bill is Courtice Pounds, supported by Louie Pounds, Sterndale Bennett and company, in the sketch, "Swankers by the Sea"; and Henri de Vries and company in "On Secret Service," "a sensational episode after declaration of the great war." The programme also includes Archie Glen, comedian and raconteur; Peggy Pryde, in types of London characters; F. V. St. Clair, "a song-writer who devotes the profits of his songs to British charities"; the Howards, in a comedy act entitled "A Call to Arms"; Alanson's Electrical Threnomena in three tableaux; and the Miles-Stavordale Quintette, in various numbers.

The kiddies belonging to the distressed families of the profession have good cause to bless the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, which, year after year, gives generous aid in food and clothing. The youngsters, too, are not likely to forget the feasting and fun that rejoiced their hearts on the afternoon of the 22nd.

"ALADDIN'S" TRIUMPH.

MONA MAGNET

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.

VERDICT OF THE PRESS.

"A PRIME FAVOURITE."
Miss Mona Magnet at once established herself a prime favourite and a dashing and vivacious Aladdin. "I do kind o' feel I'm in love," and "Love is king of everything," were her best songs, though she gave a spirited rendering of one of another type, "If it's a lady, thumbs up!"
—"Birmingham Daily Post."

"A PERFECT PICTURE."
Miss Mona Magnet was affectionately greeted. She is a captivating principal boy, with much natural ability, clear articulation and a good singing voice. In the glittering palace scene she looked a perfect picture.
—"Birmingham Gazette."

"GRACEFUL AND FASCINATING."
Miss Mona Magnet does well in the title rôle, and gives promise of becoming a popular principal boy. She has a graceful and fascinating style, makes the best of humorous episodes, and has a pleasing voice.—"Birmingham Daily Mail."

"AN IDEAL ALADDIN."
Miss Mona Magnet is an ideal "Aladdin," and believers in heredity will be interested to hear that her mother played the part twenty-five years ago. She acts and sings with equal effect.

EXCLUSIVE AGENT,
CHRIS TOWLER (Birmingham Stage Agent),
138, Bristol Road, Birmingham.

VARIETY THEATRES CONSOLIDATED, LTD.

The 10th annual meeting of the shareholders of the Variety Theatres Consolidated, Ltd., was held at the London Pavilion, on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 29, Mr. Henry Tozer presiding.

The directors in their report for the year ending Sept. 30 last, stated:

"The directors herewith present the balance sheet of the company at Sept. 30, 1914, from which it will be seen that (after providing for interest on the mortgages and on the mortgage debentures and all outgoings) there is a credit balance of £1,872 12s. 10d. to carry forward to the current year's accounts, after deducting £2,763 8s. 4d., the loss for the year.

"Although increased artistes' salaries—brought about by excessive competition—are again an unsatisfactory feature of this year's trading, the reduced receipts since the beginning of the war account for the chief proportion of the loss shown.

"At variety theatres in the London district generally audiences have since July diminished very considerably owing to the reduced spending power of the public and the absence of those who have gone to the front or into military or naval training.

"The theatres owned by the company have not benefited (as some few others have done) by the contiguity of camps or by increased local employment consequent upon contracts for war supplies.

"Working expenses have been reduced in every practical way—the staffs and others engaged have helped in this respect—whilst the directors have since the outbreak of the war only drawn one-half their authorised remuneration, and are prepared to continue this reduction until the company again becomes a dividend-paying concern.

"It is impossible to foreshadow the duration of the war, but it may be reasonably anticipated that, as general trading approaches normal conditions, the industry will reap the reward of continuing the business under the present serious difficulties by substantial increases in future receipts and, what is equally, if not more, important, by permanent reductions in expenditure.

"Mr. Joseph Davis retires and offers himself for re-election as a director.

"The auditors of the company, Messrs. Newson-Smith, Lord, and Mundy, retire, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election."

The chairman gave a resumé of the position of the company occasioned by the war, and after explaining various matters referred to in the report, invited shareholders to make any suggestions or queries.

Discussion arose, and the speakers included Mr. Fendick, Mr. Hickisson, Mr. Pollard, Mr. J. S. Morrison, and others. Subsequently the accounts were adopted with only three dissentients.

Mr. Joseph Davis was unanimously re-elected a director, and the auditors were also re-appointed.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors for their especially arduous labours during the past year.

Tom Costello's collection for our Cigarette Fund during last week amounted to over £13—which has been equally divided between "The Era" fund and that of "The Weekly Dispatch." Mr. Cocks, of the Ardwick Empire, has collected £4 10s. 6d.

Tenders are invited by the Dawlish Urban District Council for the sole use of the bandstand in the Public Gardens at Dawlish, South Devon, for concerts, during the season of 1915. Applications to be sent to Francis S. Cole, town clerk, Dawlish.

THE CHILDREN'S TREAT.

On behalf of the working committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild the secretary begs most gratefully to thank those friends who have sent donations and were present at the Christmas treat and tree on Tuesday, Dec. 22, at the Horns Hotel, Kennington, when no fewer than 176 children of poor professionals sat down to hot roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, two vegetables, and 56 lbs. of plum pudding to follow. It was a scene never to be forgotten. All the children were dressed by the committee at the offices of the Guild on Friday, Dec. 18, and each had new boots on arrival at the Horns Hotel.

Among the visitors was Lady Moss, who was very interested, and shook hands with nearly every little guest. She brought with her more fruit. The Rev. Mr. Holland kindly said grace, and Rev. Donald Hole came later. Miss Marie Kendall and her daughter, Miss Moya McCarthy, remained quite a long time. Other visitors were Mrs. and Miss Fruin, Mrs. Garrick, her daughters, Ethel and Pauline, Mrs. Roy Travers, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Anders, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Kellner, Mrs. Ball, and Mr. Bardrick, Miss Maud Mortimer and her son, Miss Flo Banks, Mrs. Synge Hutchinson, Miss Kate Toole, Mr. W. Newman, Mr. Douglas Stuart, Mr. T. C. Callaghan, Mrs. Crowther, Private W. Foote, Mr. W. Cody, Mr. Howard Ward, Mr. Frank Folloy, Mr. Lenton, Mr. Dennis Harvey and sons, Miss Saville, and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Latham.

Mr. Chas Coborn is to be thanked for impersonating Santa Claus and singing to the children (the costume kindly lent by Messrs. Rayne, costumiers). Mr. Con is also thanked for playing the piano all day; the Misses Elsie and Kitty Bower, for singing and dancing for our guests. The Christmas tree, kindly lent by Mrs. Nash, florist, Brixton, was electrically lighted and vastly admired by the little ones. Every child left with as much as ever each could possibly carry, and the letters since received testify to their enjoyment.

The children's wants were well attended to by the president (Miss Cecilia Macarte), the hon. treasurer (Miss Lottie Albert), the first vice-president (Mrs. Chas. Coborn), and the ladies of the committee, who were Miss Louie Vere, Miss Macarte, Mrs. Thomas Fawkes, Mrs. Rosie Macarte, and Miss Amy Foote. Telegrams were received from Mrs. Gintaro, Mrs. Herbert Shelley, Mrs. Julia Cosgrove, and Miss E. G. Clark, who were unable to be present.

Li-Chang-Hi (of Li-Chang-Hi and Tai-Mao, Chinese illusionists) has been seriously ill at 113, Greenfield-street, Alloa, N.B., for the last five weeks with hæmorrhage of the stomach. He is now slightly better, and would be pleased to hear from any of his friends.

Among his Christmas activities Mr. Willie Benn, of the Palace Theatre, Maidstone, produced the pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes" on Boxing afternoon. The matinée proved a gigantic success. The principal artistes who scored a brilliant success were Miss Madge Lester, Boy Blue; Miss Jessie Lee, Goody Two Shoes; the Snap-Shot Girls, who made a big hit in the Hanley scene; Fred Dunville, Dame; Fred Holt, the Squire; Jack Heath, King Pippin; Beeby and Walker, a real pair of comedians; Dan Lyons, Demon; Miss Ruby Wentworth, Fairy Queen; and the Garrick Troupe of dancers. The scenery and dresses are by Mr. Bert Rutley and Miss Sybil Chester. The pantomime was produced by Mr. Willie Benn, the well-known agent and proprietor of the Famous Park's Eton Boys.

THE COMMITTEE of the VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND AND INSTITUTION desire it to be known that the Variety Artistes' Ladies' Emergency Relief Fund is a separate organization, and is in no way connected in any manner, shape or form with the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution.

By Order of the Executive Committee,
C. DOUGLAS STUART, Secretary.

LEADING PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

GLASGOW.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Henry J. Crane.—The pantomime of "Aladdin" is being presented here by Mr. Fred J. Little's company to good houses. With Miss Lillie Langtry in the title-rôle, no livelier or more energetic boy could be desired, and she carries the others briskly along with her. Miss Nora McCarthy is a pretty and engaging Princess. Mr. Walter Adams is a most amusing Widow Twankey, Mr. Willie Black plays Abanazar as a Scotsman, and a lot of clever fun is introduced by Newco and Sullo as two Chinese policemen. Mr. Andie Lace as Wishee Washee, Mr. Eric Clifford as the Emperor, and Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as the Vizier all add to the fun. The Five Brewsters dance throughout, and also introduce their lance and sword speciality.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich. Waldon; A. M., Mr Hugh Murdoch; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Vollmer.—That "Mother Goose" has caught on is amply proved by the large houses at Mr. Waldon's popular South Side theatre. The pantomime is now moving without a hitch from beginning to end. Peter Bermingham as Billy Goose and Mr. John Macmahon as Pipkins continue to keep their audiences in roars of laughter, and their efforts receive able assistance from Messrs. Bert Royston and J. Lansdown. Miss Nellie Turner as Winnie and Miss Olive Sloan, the principal boy, have much to do with the success of the pantomime, and the other members of the cast perform with great credit to themselves.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M.D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; R. M., Mr. Amand Mascard; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Rogers.—As a special holiday attraction here Mr. Andrew Emm stages Mr. Walter Melville's drama, "The Beggar Girl's Wedding," and, judging from the hearty reception accorded, the season promises to be a highly successful one. A special company have been got together, and every incident is portrayed with vivid realism. As Jack Cunningham Mr. Gerald Blake gives a spirited portrayal, his work at all times reaching a high standard. An impressive study of Bessie Webster (the beggar girl) is submitted by Miss Kathleen Clancey, her exacting performance being especially noted. As Elsie Cunningham Miss Laurie Potter acts with distinction. The sinister rôle is admirably sustained by Mr. Bartlett Garth as Gilbert Lindsay, and Miss Lydia Mannington as Maud Villiers, the latter excelling in all the arts of the Society Lady. The humorous interludes are in the capable hands of Mr. Percy Boucher as Dicky Storm and Miss Nellie Knuth as Lizzie (a London slavey). Mr. W. S. Stevenson shows great aptitude for the part of Robert Grimshaw, a lawyer. The other parts receive capable treatment. The staging and scenic effects leave nothing to be desired.

PALACE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. Walter W. Thompson.—The programme here this week is headed by Austin Rudd, the popular comedian. Other pleasing attractions with prominent places on the bill include Maggie Fraser, the panto. favourite and excellent vocalist, and the Yamagatas, a marvellous Japanese troupe. The remainder of the programme is well sustained by the Adams Trio, comedy cyclists; Ella Gold, comedienne; Jack Blair, Scotch patter comedian; Braddy Shaw, an artiste with a trombone; Rokby, eccentric juggler; the Four Blairs, in a clever dancing act; and Flo Davis, comedienne.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Harry Burns's company occupy the boards of the Coliseum this week in their comic pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." Miss Victoria Carmen in the title-rôle is very popular, and is ably supported by Miss Maudie Vera as Polly Perkins. Messrs. Stewart and Morris, the popular comedians, are conspicuous as Captain Cuttle and Captain's Mate, and Mr. Happy Atwood has a rousing reception as Billy Crusoe. The other members of the company are all good.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—The top of an excellent bill is supplied by the ever-popular Mrs. Langtry, who is supported in a clever little play, "Ashes," by Mr. Athol Stewart. The Warsaw Brothers, Jay Whidden, Billy Kumming, the Ten Turcos, Russell Carr, T. B. Barr, Lily Long, "What Every Woman Ought to Know," presented by Martin Rolland and company, complete a first-class programme.

EMPRESS PLAYHOUSE, LTD.—M., Mr. Henry Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. John Henderson.—A specially attractive New Year programme is submitted for this week, and includes the Three Laurels in their smart speciality; the Camerons, in funny act, "At the Carnival"; and Walter Kemp and company in a first-class comedy sketch, "Jock's Invention." The pictures are first-class. Special performances will be given on Friday and Saturday.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—L., Artistes' Agency, Ltd.; M., Mr. John Macmillan; Mus. D., Mr. M. Young Kay.—The New Year draw here is the Tenka Troupe of novelty musicians. Lindsey and Harte, Leslie Lynn and company, in "A Lapse of Memory"; "Balmy Bill's Downfall," presented by the Eight Sports; the Macleod Trio, Greta Wallace, Mona Warwick, and Dan Gregory and Lydia complete the excellent bill.

SAVOY.—L., Oxford Varieties, Ltd.; M., Mr. Horace Coxall.—This week we have as special attraction here Mr. Ernest Whitwell and company in a comedy sketch, "Dumbstruck"; the Glenroy Troupe of singers and dancers, in a patriotic scena, "The 17th Lancers." Conspicuous are Les Cycluminas, in an electrical speciality cycling act. Campbell and Castelle provide a comedy acrobatic act, and the Elkin Girls, the comedy cook and comedienne; the Sisters Lillian, vocalists, and Mr. Sydney Bland, a popular light comedian, complete.

QUEEN'S.—L., Mr. James Hamilton; M., Mr. John Thomson.—This week (twice nightly): The De Lines, in singing, dancing, and comedy; Squire Hughes, vocalist and raconteur; Harry Arnold, Scotch comedian; and pictures.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. W. Matthew; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—The chief attraction at the Pavilion is the appearance of Mlle. Mathilda Gaumont and company in a very funny sketch, entitled "Oh! That Hat." Mlle. Gaumont is extremely clever, and the sketch takes exceedingly well. The name of Rinaldo on a bill is always sure to draw a crowd, and the way he manages the violin is as clever as ever. Valazzie is a very clever juggler, who takes well; and Mr. George Ross gives a pleasing entertainment at the piano. "The System" is the title of a clever sketch presented by Blake and Granby. The remaining artistes on the bill are: Rose Cambry, comedienne; James Houston and company in a Scotch sketch, "The Best Man"; and Harry Harvey, the pattering postman.

Boors, The Chemists, 101, 103, 105, Sauchiehall-street.

LIVERPOOL.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. Noel Vincent.—Here this week a pretty and amusing pantomime, entitled "Dick Whittington," from the pen of Mr. E. C. Jazon, is doing good business. Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery have sent a very capable company, and the staging is a special feature. Miss Jennie Reeve proves a most acceptable Dick; Miss Gertrude Creuston plays Alice with neatness; very amusing are Messrs. Will B. Willby (Dame), William Miller (Fitzwarren), Fred Ward (Idle Jack), the Stevanos (Captain and Mate), and Miss Kitty Wild (the Marquis). Mr. Will Cameo is an approved Cat; and others prominent are the Celtics (Emperor and Princess of Morocco), Miss Nellie Lewis (Prince), Miss Kitty Pearce (Susan), Miss Lily C. Bell (Gertrude), and Miss Selina Swift (Fairy). The Seaside Octette have some smart specialities, and the augmented orchestra is under the control of Mr. E. Edgar Varley.

REPERTORY. — P., Liverpool Repertory Theatre, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—On Boxing Day a fairy fantasy, "The Shepherdess Without a Heart," from the Globe Theatre, London, opened for a season. It is really a delightful production, full of pretty scenes, tuneful music, and neat dances, and to the youthful portion of an audience it will be especially acceptable. High praise is due to those responsible for the effective staging; while the company engaged fulfil their duties in commendable manner. Miss Beatrice Welch very charmingly impersonates the Shepherdess, her singing and dancing earning for her much cordial recognition; in natural manner Mr. O. D. Roberts and Miss Eileen Atherley impersonate the grandparents, their acting being sincere; Mr. Eric B. Bass is especially good as Blotch; Miss Olivia Novina neatly holds the part of the Cuckoo; and other prominent workers are Miss Irene Cooper (Mrs. Brown Mouse), Miss Violet Cecil, and Miss Mabel Bull.

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—The long-expected eight weeks of opera by the Moody-Manners Opera Company started on Boxing Day with the always popular "Maritana." A crowded audience gave it a hearty welcome. Miss Kitty Brownlees, in the title-part, sang with exquisite taste; Mr. Seth Hughes made a brilliant Don Cæsar, and for his particular song, "There is a flower that bloometh," gained rounds of applause; others contributing being Miss Phyllis Archibald (Lazarillo), Mr. Flintoff Moore (Don José), and Mr. Harry Brindle, who made an admirable King. The orchestra was ably handled by the new conductor, Mr. Aylmer Buest. In the evening, "The Puritan's Daughter" was given, when additional interest was lent to the performance by the appearance of Mr. Charles Manners as Charles II. and Miss Fanny Moody, who presented a pleasing Mary Wolf. Other supporters were Mr. Fred Hargreave, a newcomer, who sang and acted well as Rochester; Mr. Charles Moorhouse (Clifford), and Mr. Harry Brindle (Colonel Wolf). The programme of this week contains "Lily of Killarney," "Carmen," "Bohemian Girl," "Martha," "Fra Diavolo," and "The Daughter of the Regiment."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—Foremost here this week is a new revue, "Venus, Ltd.," a notice of which appears in another column. The variety part of the programme contains the names of Marie Pera and Francis Annesley, with a very amusing trifle, "Between Ourselves"; S. W. Wyndham, comedian; and Daisy Sloan, a favourite Scotch comedienne.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mons. R. Klasse.—Mr. Fred le Cren's pantomime, "Sinbad Up to Date" is attracting large audiences during its second week's stay.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—The second successful week of Tiller's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor," is being put in.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; R. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Mus. D., Mr. G. Dibbert. — The attraction here this week is "No Mother to Guide Her," which is being given by the stock company, foremost among whom are Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood, Denbigh J. Douglas, J. Scott Leighton, Miss Nancy Mitchell, Miss Constance Medwyne, and Miss Violet Ingram.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—The holiday attraction here is a big circus, which is dealt with elsewhere.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Good business is being done with Messrs. Dottridge and Longdon's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," written by Mr. H. Flockton Foster, and produced by Mr. Donald Gilbert. It is a particularly bright and attractive show, and, on Monday evening, was received with every evidence of approval. The title-part was played by Miss Emmie King with vivacity and spirit, her several songs being received with great applause. The principal comedian, Mr. Arthur White, earned general recognition by reason of his particularly humorous work; Miss Ada Bellfield was a pleasing principal girl; Mr. George Hyam helped greatly with the fun as Mrs. Crusoe; Victor and Louie were a couple of smart comedians; and among the rest of the talented company may be mentioned Miss Ena Cairns, Miss Josie Farrington, Miss Clairette Ruane, Messrs. Donald Gilbert, Campbell Carr, and Will Austa. Mme. Dubois had a troupe of able dancers.

Boors, The Chemists, 110-12a, Bold-street; 11 and 13, London-road; 1, Leece-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Darby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Lodge-road; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential-buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord-street; 68, South-road, Waterloo; 51, Stanley-road, Bootle; 111-113, County-road, Walton; 8, Longmoor-lane, Aintree; 333, Smithdown-road, Sefton Park; 116, St. Mary's-road, Garston; 53-55, Seaforth-road, Seaforth.

MANCHESTER.

NEW PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Alan M. Young; S., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. Rathmall.—For a third week "The Whirl of the Town" is drawing packed houses here.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred Haines.—Mr. Leonard F. Durell's spectacular aqua-drama, "Kultur" (a full notice of which appears on another page) is still the big attraction here, and is playing to full houses. Whit Cunliffe, the well-known light comedian, is also a big draw; and some excellent dancing is done by Frank and Vesta. Other smart turns are given by Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait and the McNaughtons (Gus and Fred), and pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—P. and F., The Tivoli (Manchester); M., Mr. Chas. Bonnett; Mus. D., Mr. Leo T. Croke.—The Mizuno Troupe are excellent Japanese entertainers, and provide a clever and elaborate show. Charles Hanbury is highly diverting in a farcical concert, "His Last Night Out," by P. T. Selbit; whilst other enjoyable items are those of the Saxone Brothers, musical speciality act; Adkin, ventriloquist; Clifford and Grey, hoop jugglers; Tim Carlisle, comedian; Eddie Astor, dancing juggler; and Fred and Wal Ellis, comedians.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Jones.—The big turn here is Miss Zona Vevey and Max Erard, who, with the aid of a piano and an eight-ton organ, provide a most delightful show. Other attractions include Albert Weston and Nellie Lynch, in comedy skit; Evans and Alton company presenting the Six Crazy Sailors, a smart acrobatic act; Aubrey Standing, tenor vocalist; Bert Weston, comedian; Violet Tonica, whistling comedienne; and Jack Thomas, a capital eccentric comedian.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, OPENSHAW.—M. D., Mr. H. D. Moorhouse; M., Mr. Arthur S. Evanson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Harney.—An excellent all-round programme here includes Miss Bessie Brenne, in her original silhouette scena, assisted by Walter Erard at the piano; the Mezzittes, comedy bar act; Ellerslie Pyne, a first-rate character actor; the Three Musical Kenways; Betty Boden, mimic and dancer; Guy Ryder, clever whistler; the Three Clarks, club throwers and dancers; and the Alhambrascope.

LESLIE'S PAVILION, RUSHOLME.—P., Mr. Fred Leslie; A. M., Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Mr. Harry Leslie's winter company, the Lyric Entertainers, are providing a really fine performance here this week. The combination is a strong one, and includes J. Woof Gaggs, in violin solos, Frances Trayne, Vivien Stafford, Ivy Westaby, Albert Lyon, Edwin Hoyle, Fred W. Shepherd, Freddie Batters, and Charles North. Next week: The Scamps.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. The Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—"The Cinema Star" is making its first appearance before a Novocastrian audience this week. The chief character of "the film actor" is in the able hands of Mr. Harry Welchman, whose singing and acting leave no room for criticism. The principal female part, the film princess, is impersonated with consummate grace and charm by Miss Eveleen Florence, who is ably supported by Miss Jenny Armstrong and Miss Cicely Courtneidge, the latter's dance with Mr. Welchman being a clever and artistic piece of work. The chief comedian, Mr. Claude Cameron, makes a highly facetious Clutterbuck, and whenever he occupies the stage the fun is fast and furious. Another capable study is that of Mr. Jack Hulbert, who, either as the professional stage manager of the film company or the jealous husband of the actress, is equally impressive and convincing. Capable work is also done by Messrs. H. V. Tollemache, Horace Lingard, and Horace Percival. The singing and dancing is gay and attractive and the dresses gorgeous.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; M., Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Little Bo-Peep," is drawing crowded houses here twice nightly. Miss May Harper makes a dashing Boy Blue, and Miss Lizzie Payne is a charming Bo-Peep. Miss Gladys Clare is well placed as the Fairy, and she is the possessor of a fine voice; Mr. Harry Talbot is adequate as the Baron, and as the Dame, Mr. Frankland Gray is most amusing. Capital variety interludes are introduced by Foley and Francis; Derby and Oakes, and the Hammersley Troupe of Lady Dancers.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Variety Theatres Controlling Co., Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece; M., Mr. W. H. Bibby.—Mr. Harry Burns is this week presenting his spectacular pantomime, "The Forty Thieves." An able cast has been secured for the production, including Miss Maude Esmond, who fills the rôle of principal boy in capital style; Miss Edith Lonsdale, Miss Rose Wylie Miss Ruby Railand, Miss Maud Hughes, and Miss Dolly Watts. The chief of the thieves is in the able hands of that well-known comedian, Jimmy Learmouth and in the department of fun-making he is capably supported by Messrs. Fred Walmsley, Edwin Garth, Douglas Phillips, Acre and Morris, Victor Tyler, Charles Alger, and Reuben Kichen. Speciality dances are introduced by the Four Jo'burg Girls. The scenery, dresses, and chorus are all quite adequate.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; R. M. Mr. J. W. Kilgour; A. M., Mr. A. Devereux. Fred Karno's new version of "The Mumming Birds" is the chief attraction here; the Denziloe Trio score heavily in their vocal and instrumental act; Chas. Whittle submits some new selections with happy results; The Brooklyn Comedy Four are paying a return visit; The Two Tomboys, in humpsti-bumpsti act, and the war films complete the programme.

PAVILION.—P. and G. M. Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Dodds.—The chief attraction here is the military musical review entitled "Nobby, V.C.," which is being presented by Hayden Coffin and company including Fred Wright. The Allies introduce a comedy speciality act entitled "An Exciting Time in the Jungle."

Boors, The Chemists, 45, Northumberland-street; 56, Northumberland-street; 83, Clayton-street; 244-46, Scotswood-road; 109, Elswick-road; 67-69, Grainger-street; 17-19, Shields-road, Byker; 121-125, Shields-road, Byker; 53-55, St. George's-terrace, Jesmond; 105-107, High-street, Gosforth.

"THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL."

Revival of the Play of Fact and Fancy, in Three Acts, by Eleanor Gates; Music by Norman O'Neill; Produced by Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Thursday, Dec. 24.

Miss Eleanor Gates' fine play has already achieved success elsewhere, and it is quite certain that this will be added to in Manchester. The story is that of a little girl, surrounded by every luxury, but neglected by her parents. She wants the amusements of poorer children, instead of motor cars and a set of servants to look after her and curtail her natural impulses. Now, in order to enjoy a few hours' freedom, her nurse gives her an overdose of a sleeping-draught, which awakes her imagination, and she journeys in her dreams through a variety of scenes, giving her fanciful embodiments of the realities of life, conceived and presented with very quaint and amusing effect. The final act shows her in bed, recovering from her experience, thanks to the friendly doctor, whose hobby is fresh air and mud pies in preference to the artificial pleasures of society. The narrow escape of their only daughter from the sleeping-draught brings her parents to their senses, and they decide to give up society and adopt a more simple life, bringing up their child accordingly. Miss Peggy Andrews as Gwendolyn, the child, was in evidence practically all the time, and deserves the greatest praise for a faultless performance. Miss Muriel Pope was very good as the two-faced nurse, Jane, and a capital performance of the mother with "a bee in her bonnet" was given by Miss Phyllis Relph. Mr. Lionel Atwill as the doctor with a hobby invested the part with an ingratiating cleverness; Mr. Charles Groves as the organ-grinder found congenial opportunities for the exercise of his unctuous humour; and another who did conspicuously well in a long and accomplished cast was Mr. Grendon Bentley as Father, the money man. The scenery and mechanical effects were excellent, and there was novelty in the electric lighting, while the music was perfectly in sympathy with the theme. This play will please both young and old equally well, and Miss Horniman is to be congratulated upon her choice for the Christmas season, no less than Mr. Douglas Gordon for the admirable quality of the production. The harlequinade which follows is of the good old-fashioned kind. There is a special orchestra under the direction of Mr. E. C. Pickerill.

ELLEN TERRY ON AUSTRALIA.

The impressions gained by Miss Ellen Terry during her recent visit to Australia have been given to a representative of the "Christian Science Monitor," of Boston.

"Australia is a very wonderful country," said Miss Terry. "The progress they are making there is indicative of the spirit of the land itself. On every hand there is a breaking up of the stilted, stereotyped standards, and as a consequence one finds a freer expression that externalises itself in many ways. Every one in Australia has a voice; it seems to be a birthright, and it has developed an art of its own. So many names with which I have been familiar in painting and letters, and which I firmly believed were thoroughly English, I find to be Australian.

"Just before I came away I learned of a most extraordinary situation indicative of the temperament of the Australian mind. A great sum, £70,000 per annum, has been placed at the disposal of the Commonwealth wherewith to purchase art. It may be in any form, pictures, sculpture, the higher crafts, or what not. The sole requirement is that the objects so purchased are to be the property of the Australian people, and that they are to be encouraged to study them. I believe the plan is to secure the appointment of an art committee that will serve without remuneration, and that this committee shall annually recommend such things as in its judgment will be of the greatest value. The fund is guaranteed by an investment that will produce the amount stated each year."

Concerning her own work Miss Terry contented herself with saying that she had ceased from active stage work. She felt she must be content with other things. She is interpreting the women of Shakespeare, these interpretations drawn from her own extensive familiarity with the characters.

"There is a great variance in Shakespeare's women," she says; "I have studied them closely, and it is most apparent. I feel with Frank Harris that he drew much inspiration from Mistress Mary Fitten. There is a softening, a broadening of that wonderful mind as the acquaintanceship progresses. There is a mellowness in Shakespeare's art as he learns, and it shines through the later characters. Most men of great capacity are softened by the feminine influence that comes to their lives."

The Actors' Association has a new secretary. He is Mr. Adnam Sprange, who has been for some time an energetic member of the council. The next bi-monthly meeting will be held in the rooms of the Association on Friday, Jan. 8, at 3 o'clock.

H. B. MARINELLI'S LICENCE.

Sitting at Bow-street Police Court on Dec. 22, Mr. Hopkins heard an appeal by Messrs. H. B. Marinelli, Ltd., of Charing Cross-road, against a decision of the London County Council, refusing to grant the company a licence to carry on a music-hall artistes' employment agency.

Mr. Patrick Hastings, counsel for the appellants, said the business in question had been carried on for many years, and was the biggest concern of its kind in London. It was registered as a company in 1908, previous to which it was the business of Mr. Marinelli himself. It had been licensed since the Act came into force, and there had never been the slightest suggestion of any kind made against the way in which it was conducted. Since the outbreak of the war, however, many persons got it into their heads that the mere fact that a man was in any way connected with Germany or Austria rendered him unsuitable to hold any position in England, and the result was that shortly before the recent licensing sessions the company received a letter from the County Council giving them notice that objection would be made to the renewal of their licence. The letter set out that notices had been received by the Council as follows:—

1. The Society of Theatrical and Music-hall Agents alleges that the major portion of the shares in the company are held by enemy aliens.

2. Mr. Seymour Hicks alleges that the beneficial interest in the business belongs to Herman Buettner, otherwise Marinelli, who is a German subject.

It was added that objection would also be taken on behalf of the Council on the ground that the company was unsuitable to hold a licence, as one of the late directors, who was the sole shareholder, and another director were alien enemies. The objections were, in substance, that either the whole or the majority of the shares were held in trust for Mr. Marinelli.

These objections, commented Mr. Hastings, were not so patriotic as they sounded, because the first objectors were, of course, rivals in business, and Mr. Seymour Hicks, who was patriotic enough to raise the second objection, had, in fact, had a judgment obtained against him by Marinelli, Ltd., three or four days previously, and was hoping to evade payment of that debt by taking the same point before Mr. Justice Scrutton, who, however, decided that Mr. Hicks must pay the money. It was perfectly true that the majority of the shares in the company—29,000 odd out of 32,000—were held by Mr. Marinelli, who was born a German, and whose real name was Herman Buettner. He added the name of Marinelli twenty or thirty years ago, when he commenced business on the music-hall stage. For the last twenty years he had lived in Paris, and he was about to become naturalised as a French subject when the war intervened.

Counsel suggested that in point of law it was, to use the words of Mr. Justice Scrutton, "a halfpenny paper argument" to say that the mere fact that Mr. Marinelli was born in Germany could in any circumstances justify the County Council in withholding the company's licence. People's minds were, however, inclined to be biased, and at the hearing before the Council it was clear from the start that it was intended to refuse the licence.

Mr. Bodkin, who appeared on behalf of the County Council, dissented.

Mr. Hastings said at any rate that was the impression his clients got. He went on to explain that Mr. Marinelli's shares were transferred to Mr. Sam Elton and afterwards to Mr. Inwards, the secretary of the company, in each case for a nominal consideration, the only object of this being to enable those gentlemen to carry on the business whilst Mr. Marinelli was away in America, where he still was.

Mr. Bodkin said that before the Public Control Committee of the Council this business was described as the biggest in the world, and it was a remarkable thing that such a business should be controlled by five gentlemen not one of whom held a single share in the concern.

Counsel dealt at some length with what he described as "the in-and-out running of the shares" during 1914, stating that the majority of them had been held by Mr. Inwards since Oct. 30. Before the committee that gentleman admitted that he would hold any dividends he might receive for Mr. Marinelli, for whose benefit the business was practically carried on. It was, therefore, obvious that any money which was earned by this large agency could be remitted to Mr. Marinelli in America, and thence to any part of the world that he pleased. He was a person who, under the alias of Marinelli, Ltd., was trading as an employment agent, and he was putting forward to receive a licence this phantasm of a company.

There was no foundation for the suggestion that the refusal of the licence was a prearranged thing, but it was submitted that it would be nearly a scandal if a public body gave a licence to a person or company—the terms here were interchangeable—in such circumstances as existed in this case.

After further argument, the magistrate reserved his decision.

CINEMATOGRAPH AT QUEEN'S HALL.

Messrs. Chappell and Co. are giving at the Queen's Hall a new and original film. The picture-play is sure of a wide appeal to popularity at the present moment, founded on and adapted, as it is, from Mrs. E. Nesbitt's fine poem, "The Ballad of Splendid Silence." The producers have kept closely to the story, only elaborating its details, but, in giving it another title, "A Patriot of France," or "The Ordeal," have laid the scene of the tragedy in a little French country town, have given the hero's part to a solider of France, and the ignominious rôle of the hideously cruel general of the opposing army to a German. This, of course, is as it should be.

The Gaumont Company, who are responsible for the production, may justly claim, as they do, that the film is a masterpiece of kinematography. There are realistic pictures of hand-to-hand fighting, of dashing cavalry charges, of heroic rescues of wounded; and then before us, brought home in almost too poignant a fashion—the torture and killing of women, sister, mother, sweetheart—the butchery of old men, the laying waste of hearth and home. Of course, there is the other side to the story—the deathless heroism of the young patriot who keeps the "splendid silence," and chooses the sacrifice of life and all that it holds most dear rather than the betrayal of comrades and country.

Some very good illustrative music was provided by an excellent orchestra conducted by Mr. Corelli Windeatt.

A poem in praise of the "Bantams," a Birkenhead regimental corps, composed of men below the regulation height, has been composed by Miss Edith Cole, and sent as a Christmas card to every member of the corps. "We write this little note," concludes the letter which accompanies the card, "to say that we shall not forget you, but that, wherever you may go, you will carry with you the kindly thoughts and best wishes of Edith Cole and Will Jones, of Liverpool."

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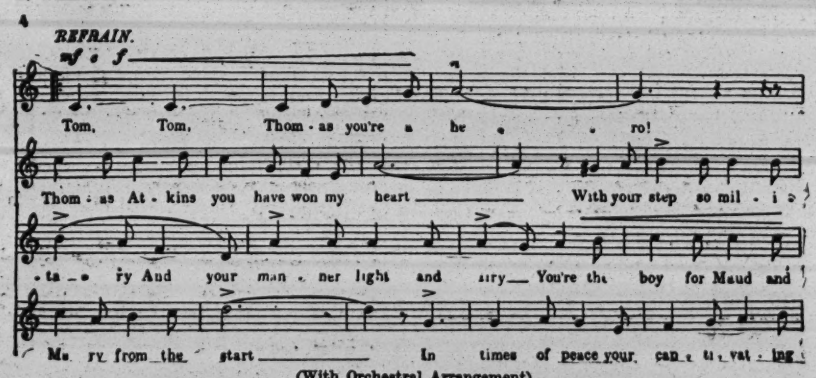
REFRAIN.
mf e f
Tom, Tom, Thom-as you're a he ro!
Thom-as At-kins you have won my heart With your step so mil-i-
-ta-ry And your man-ner light and airy You're the boy for Maud and
Ma-ry from the start In times of peace your can-ti-vat-ing

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

DEATHS.

CARE.—On Dec. 21, at 23, George-street, Brighton, Major Carr (late "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co.), age 64 years.

COLE.—Dec. 22 (his 74th birthday), at his residence, 32, Chanctonbury-road, Hove, George Cole, for many years the highly esteemed correspondent of "The Era" at Brighton.

IN MEMORIAM.

CULLING.—In ever-loving memory of my dear wife (Ada Clare), who passed away Dec. 31, 1903. Otto C. Culling.

JACKAWAY.—In memory of J. Jackaway, who died Jan. 2, 1913. Never forgotten by his sorrowing wife.

JACKAWAY.—In loving memory of our darling daddy, J. Jackaway, who died Jan. 2, 1913. Never forgotten by his devoted daughters, Tory Jackaway and Hilda Newsome.

LAUREL.—In ever-loving memory of my darling sister, Florrie Laurel, who fell asleep Dec. 28, 1913. Never forgotten, dearest, by your loving sister, Amy.

NEWSOME.—In loving memory of James Newsome, who died Jan. 2, 1912. Sadly missed by his daughter, Bertha Jackaway.

PETTITT.—In loving memory of Henry Pettitt, dramatic author, who died on Dec. 24, 1893, at The Chestnuts, Goldhawk-road, W.

SNOW.—In loving memory of Mr. Ted Snow, who died on Christmas Day, 1903, age 76, who is never forgotten by his widow and children.

"JACK AND JILL AND THE BEANSTALK," AT WOOLWICH.

Produced on Boxing Day.

Jack	Miss Dinkie Jeune
Jill	Miss Maie Mohr
Margery Daw	Miss Marie Annerbelle
The Squire	Mr. Barry Gilmore
Silly Billy	Mr. Ernie Bruce
The Widow	Mr. Tom Tutty
Percival	Mr. Bert Earle
Phyllis	Miss Dolly Richardson
The Fairy	Miss Dorothy Anderson
Grovel	Mr. Dana Royal
The Giant	Mr. Arthur Martin
The Coon	Mr. Bert Vernon
The Cow	

Messrs. Syd McLloyd and C. Rochefort

Maid Marion	Miss Vi Oram
Cinderella	Miss Phyllis Loraine
Dickery Dock	Miss Gracie Essex
Bo-Peep	Miss Mabel Hope

The story of "Jack and Jill and the Beanstalk" (in two parts, by D. Dalziel Dalgety, with music by R. Kal-Herd, produced at the Royal, Woolwich, on Boxing Day) runs on familiar lines, and is smart and well written. Miss Dinkie Jeune makes a sprightly Jack, giving the character that dash and go necessary for a panto. principal boy. Her chief numbers are "When Irish eyes are smiling" and "Boys in khaki, boys in blue." Her lover, Jill, is charmingly played by Miss Maie Mohr, her singing, acting, and dancing being everything that could be desired. Her big number, "I'm in love," is loudly applauded. The great comedian, Tom Tutty, one of the finest "dames" seen for a long time, scores every time, and his song, 'Rover," goes well. The fairy, Miss Dorothy Anderson, possesses a magnificent voice, which she uses to the utmost advantage in "Moonshine." Mr. Bert Earle, as Percival, a fop, gives a very humorous impersonation, and his song, "Roley Poley," creates much laughter. Ernie Bruce, as Silly Billy, is another smart comedian, and scores every time; his best number is, perhaps, "S'nice s'mince s'pie." Another prime funmaker is Mr. Barry Gilmore as the squire. The McLloyds, in their duo and dance, "Love me while the loving is good," have to respond to an encore, and all the specialities are well received. Mr. Dana Royal does well as Grovel, and the giant of Mr. Arthur Martin is deserving of more than passing mention. The chorus is well trained and the scenery magnificent, the Palace of Love being, perhaps, the best. The dresses, both for principals and chorus, are costly and in the best of taste, and the entire show goes with a swing from start to finish.

"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT" AT NEWCASTLE.

Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, for their 30th Newcastle pantomime, have chosen "The House that Jack Built," at the Tyne Theatre, and judging by the initial performance it ought to prove no less popular than the annuals that have preceded it. The book is written by Messrs. J. Hickory Wood and J. James Hewson. The story lends itself to vivacity and briskness, and the production is one of continuous hilarity combined with fine spectacular effect. The first scene is that of Dame Durden's Farm, and is a fine representation by Mr. T. F. Dunn. The tenant of the farm, Bill Durden, is too lazy to look after the property, and for this inveterate indolence he soon comes under the ban of the Prince (his landlord), who later falls in love with the farmer's daughter, Sue. The second scene is entitled "The Exchange," and the comedians here get a start to the real business: the fun develops over the telephones and mirrorphone. Another exceedingly funny scene is that of Mrs. Durden's Stores, the paper-hanging incident being ludicrous in the extreme. "The Old Barn" is the last scene of the first act, and here the lazy farmer's son, Jack, who has succeeded his father in the management of the farm, finds a magic bag of malt, which is said to lead to fame and fortune.

The second part opens in the Prince's tastefully laid out gardens. Here representatives of the different countries of the Allies are ushered in to the accompaniment of their respective National Anthems. Jack falls in love with the Prince's long-lost sister, and is promised her hand when he can build a palace to equal that of the Prince. With the aid of his magic bag, and, of course, the pantomime Fairy, Jack is enabled to accomplish this architectural feat, and the story ends in the happy and only possible fashion. Billy Merson is the leading comedian, and as Sammy the Handy Man is the life and soul of the piece. A happy opportunity is made for him to introduce that successful number of his, "The Spaniard who blighted my life." He has an able lieutenant in Mr. Joe Nightingale as Dame Durden; Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie is an adequate Bill Durden. The Prince is in the hands of Mr. Fred Barnes, a light comedian whose dancing and singing are both first-class. Miss Luna Love is the leading lady, and she is well suited to the part of Sue; she sings, acts, and dances with grace and charm that make her impersonation very charming. Miss Ivey Latimer is the principal boy, and she also made a popular impression. Miss Elfie Vincent as the Princess, and Miss Nancie Hanton as the Fairy are both admirable. The Tiller Troupe of dancers introduce some charming numbers, and the chorus leaves little to be desired. The music is under the direction of Mr. R. Hill, and is tuneful and appropriate throughout.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

Continued from Page 8.

HELENA MILLAIS
HELENA MILLAIS
HELENA MILLAIS

Presents
The greatest of all
American Cowboy Sketches.

"SILVER CREEK."
"SILVER CREEK."
"SILVER CREEK."
(A Story of Arizona.)

The Western Sketch that Draws the Stalls and Circle.

14 People. 1 Horse. 3 Full Scenes.

1090th PERFORMANCE.
Going better than ever.
Managers in donot see it.
This week, Olympia, Shoreditch.

The Up-to-date Stirring
MILITARY EPISODE.

"SAVED BY THE BRITISH."
"SAVED BY THE BRITISH."
"SAVED BY THE BRITISH."
A Story of the War.
By Clare Shirley.

11 Principals. Extras. 4 Full Scenes.

Belgians, French, Germans, and British.

"SAVED BY THE BRITISH."
"SAVED BY THE BRITISH."
The Sketch of the Moment. Cheered to the Echo.
First vacancy, Jan. 25, 1915.

"THE HOLD-UP GIRL."
"THE HOLD-UP GIRL."
"THE HOLD-UP GIRL."
By Percival Sykes.
A New Cowboy Comedy.
REALLY SOMETHING NEW & ORIGINAL.

Quite different from other Wild West sketches; a clever story; is pure comedy.—"Yorkshire Observer."

10 Principals. 1 Full Scene.

"THE CREOLE."
"THE CREOLE."
"THE CREOLE."
By Leon M. Lion.

7 Principals. 1 Full Scene.

Powerful Company,
including
WM. FRASER-BRUNNER.

WANTED, Jan. 25, and on (either Sketch).

Apply, Principal Agents; or direct to
HELENA MILLAIS.

Address,
This week, Olympia, Shoreditch,
Next week, Empire, Islington.
'Phone, 549 Hammersmith.

FRED POWELL AND CO.,
including John Brittain,
in "a delicious bit of humorous characterisation,"
"GETTING THE DINNER IN."
"GETTING THE DINNER IN."
"GETTING THE DINNER IN."
Own Set. Three people. Fifteen minutes' laughter.

WANTED, Jan. 11, between Aberdeen and Dublin.
This, Circus, Bury. Next, Palace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Wanted, next week, also Jan. 11,
by
CORA GILL & CO.,
in Comedy Sketches.
"AN ANGEL UNAWARES"
and
"OH, SIR."
Also
NELL and FRED,
in Vocal Scena,
"HOME FROM COLLEGE."
At Once-nightly Halls.
Single if required.
Wire for a bunch of laughs.
King's Theatre, Colne.

FLORENCE SMITHERS' Sketch Co.
"The Wrong Girl," "Our Mary Jane."

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 4 and 11. 55, Beauchamp-rd., Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Jan. 18 (South Wales preferred), for Lilian Beaumont's Comedy Sketches, "Sally Mine" and "Woman's Rights"; three recognised artistes (two ladies, one gent.). This, Grand T., Great Harwood. Next, Hippodrome, Lancaster.

"THE BELGIAN'S OATH."

WANTED, Jan. 4 and 11, for above Dramatic Sketch. Three people. Always a success.
Address,
T. C. McQUIRE, "Blytheswood," Stourbridge.

TED KARNO AND CO.,
"HOTEL DE QUICK."
17 minutes' scream of laughter.

WANTED, Jan. 11, 18, 25.
Wire, this, Empire, Stroud, Glos.
Next, New Theatre, Mountain Ash, S. Wales.

WANTED, Jan. 18 (North or Midlands), "The Sleepwalker." WALTER ELLIS & CO. This. Vint's, Llanelly.
Next, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, by EMMA DON and CO., Jan. 4 and 11, or will supply her own combination; biggest draw in the business; salary or sharing terms.
Dec. 28, Hippodrome, Cheltenham.

The Funniest Sketch in Vaudeville.
"THE SHOEMAKER'S LUCK"

WANTED, Jan. 11, follow Grand, Bolton; Jan. 25, follow Blackpool.
Five artistes, including Miss Edith Finlay. Full set carried. 20 minutes fill of enjoyment for any audience.
GEO. M. MARRIOTT, 33a, Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11 and 18, by The Anglo-Belgian Character Depictor,
JACQO FLEUR,
Supported by
MAUDELIA STRAHAN,
In Song, Scena, and Yarns.
Sketch, "A Mother's Heart," a triumph in Vaudeville acts. Great success everywhere. Own scenery and special properties carried. No reasonable offer refused. Any distance. Share or cert. Wire. Perm. Address., 4, Peru-street, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 4 and 11, by
VOLTA and MAUD.
VOLTA and MAUD.
Comedy, Acrobatic, Gymnastic Act.
Comedy, Acrobatic, Gymnastic Act.
Wire for Monday, VOLTA, Prince of Wales Pal., Norwich.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

The Premier Domestic Sketch.
STUART CLEVELAND
STUART CLEVELAND
STUART CLEVELAND
Last First-Class Company
in the Popular Heart-to-Heart Attraction,
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
By Stuart Cleveland.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 11, 18, and various on.
A Never-Failing Success.
STUART CLEVELAND.
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
Will forward date-sheet on application.
Business done through any reputable agent or direct.
Address, STUART CLEVELAND, 25, Stow Hill, Newport.
Jan. 4, Empire, Longton.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next,
"THE GREAT REVENGE"
and
"THE CONVICT'S WIFE."
The two most successful 25 minutes' Sketches. Own Scenery. Four Artistes. Change mid-week. We have just completed 12 months' Tour, solid, without a break, and have made good at every Hall visited. Always a big week with "The Great Revenge" and "The Convict's wife."
Send for Date-sheet. Share or Salary. Wanted, Monday next, March 15 and 22, and on. Wire for Monday next. Steele and Somerville, Grand Theatre, Basingstoke.

WANTED, Managers and Agents to see Dorothy Haigh and William Heilbronn in "THE STRAIGHT GAME."
A 3-handed sketch full of intense interest.
Full scene carried. Plays 18 minutes.
Dec. 28, T. Royal, Consett.
Jan. 4, Hip., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Jan. 11, Pavilion, Glasgow.
Jan. 18, Hippodrome, Hulme.
Jan. 25, Pavilion, Liverpool.
Vacant Feb. 1, intermediate, on.
Address as above.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, Jan. 4, THE BOUNCING DILLONS,
Novelty Gymnasts and Bounding Comedians.
Bouncing Willie, Originator of the Bouncing Competition.
The only competition to run consistent for ten years.
Still a Record Success.
The Funniest Competition on Earth.
But you must have the Originator.
Beware of would-be copyists.
They only attempt.
We Succeed.
Usual success, Dooner's Cinema, Maesteg.
Immediately secured by R. Dooner for Brynmawr.
Free Jan. 4. Shares or Salary. Shares preferred.
Managers offering shares with fair guarantee wire.
Please say if running only pictures. If turns and pictures quote number of turns.
Address, Holly Cottage, Morden-road, Merton, London, S.W.
Stage required: 10ft. deep, 24ft. wide, 15ft. high.

WANTED, Wanted Known,
CARELO, Foot Equilibrist,
vacant January.
354, Gt. Western-st., Manchester.

RYDE and BEEMAN, Eccentric Acrobats.
WANTED, Jan. 4, 11, 18.
Wire, Palace, Grimsby. After Saturday, 1, Henry-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED Known, MARO DUO. Quaintest and Funniest Gymnastic Comedians. This, Theatre, Bellshill, N.B. Liberty Monday, also Feb. 1, 8. Wire. North preferred.

WANTED, Jan. 4, 11, by
Two of Britain's Best Entertainers,
MILLER AND COYNE.
Comedy Acrobatic Pot-pourri Speciality.
No Reasonable Offer Refused.
Satisfaction guaranteed. All answered.
Wire, MILLER, Central Palace, Bolsover.

WANTED, Jan. 4, to follow Empire, Torquay, also Jan. 18, 25, The Bellinis, Lady and Gent. Equilibrists and Aerial Gymnasts; two distinct acts. Thanks Gannon's Agency for contract; also Hart and Hughes' London Agency for offers. Wire or write, Empire, Torquay.

WANTED, Jan. 11 and 25, MEELY and LAING, Eccentric, Acrobatic, Singing and Dancing Novelty, "The Settlers." Special Scenery, Original Properties, Effects. Wire, Dec. 28, Empire, Stamford. Jan. 4, Palace, Retford.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 11, Jan. 11, between Edinburgh and Liverpool,
BROS. ASTON.
England's Premier Cycling Comedians.
Comedy Football Match on Bicycles.
Vacant Jan. 11.
Vacant Jan. 11.
Also free all Feb.
Three People. Three People.
This week, Palace, Redcar.
Next week, Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday, and on, THE BEAUMONTS (two Ladies, one Gent.). Sensational Knife and Tomahawk Throwers and Handcuff Queen. Address, 7, New King-st., Deptford.

WANTED, Monday next and all Jan. by the Famous DONNAS TRIO, Great Anglo-Italian Equilibrists and Gymnasts on the Trapeze. Sure draw and big success everywhere. Wire offers for Monday next to 101, Horton-lane, Bradford.

WANTED Known, AVRIGNY TRIO, Japanese Pot-Pourri, from all the principal cities of Europe; free. Coms., 435, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, by ROYAL IKOMA FAMILY, Genuine Japanese, four in number. Wonderful Equilibristic Act. This, Bottom, Tiv., Hull. Next vac., Jan. 18, on. Wire for Monday.

WANTED Known, Famous THREE ELTONS. Britain's Greatest Triple Bar Comedians, Marblesque Trio, Living Statuary. Two distinct Acts. Liberty Jan. 11. Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 18, 25, THE CYCLINIS.
Unusual Cyclists and their Refractory Bicycles.
Success everywhere, and a draw.
We can follow them all and make good.
This, Stoll's Wood Green Empire.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted Known,
THE ENGLISH
HANLON CARLS
(2 Ladies, 2 Gents.).
Smartest of all Flying Trapeze Bars Trampoline Performers. Including
ARTHUR HANLON, Jun.,
the World's Best Trampoline Artiste,
in a Variety of Single, Double, and Triple Somersaults. Free Jan. 4, 11.
Address, Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday Next.
BOB PENDER'S TROUPE.
"THE FLAPPER."
Five in number.
Big success, this week, Coliseum, Oldham.
Wire above.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, HALL and WILSON TRIO.
Motor-Cycling Sensation.
Wire best offer, 1a, Colechill-street, Birmingham.

Music Hall Artists' Wants
Continued on Page 38.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ALFRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted Known, The Entertainments Committee invite Offers from a Reliable Entertainer to provide a First-class
MINSTREL TROUPE
for season 1915 to perform three times daily. The agreement will be based on sharing terms. Further particulars and forms of application, which must be returned on or before Jan. 4 next, can be obtained from
MR. CHAS. EVANS,
Pier and Entertainments Department,
Town Hall, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Good Alfresco Shows, for Summer Dates.
Lowest terms, salary or percentage,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Worcester.

WANTED, immediately, Ladies and Gentlemen for Professional Concert Party.
Write to MR. HENRY DUPARC,
9, Grove-road, Willesden Green.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

FUNLAND SCOTTISH TOUR.
WANTED, Girls for Stalls.
Commencing Jan. 14.
Permanent. State age, experience.
E. VILENSKI,
Funland, Masonic Hall, Leadhill, Lanarkshire.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties of Every Description; Alive or Dead. Fullest particulars and salary required.
PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest novelties and best money-takers. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED to Sell, Cheap Automatic Machines. Real Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, X-Rays, &c. Free catalogue.
AUTOMATICS, 541, Caledonian-road, N.

WANTED to Let, first week in New Year, White Palace Buildings; most busy thoroughfare in Nottingham; corner Carrington-street; suit War Exhibition, Concerts, Teas, Auctioneer's, quick sale novelties; black with traffic. COOLEY, 26, Market-street, Nottingham.

WANTED to Let, Standing for up-to-date Rifle Range, Nottingham and Northampton; one 86ft., other 150ft. COOLEY, 26, Market-street. Interview Friday, Saturday, a.m., appointment. COOLEY, 26, Market-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties of every Description, alive or dead. Fullest particulars and salary required.
PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

SKATING WANTEDS.

ROLLER SKATES.

WANTED, to Buy, quantity of Secondhand Skates; must be cheap. JACKS, 75, Wilberforce-road, London, N.

ROLLER SKATES.

WANTED to Sell, 1,000 pairs of new ball-bearing Skates in quantities to suit buyers at right prices. JACOBS, 80, Hackney-road, London, E.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED to Sell, Jewel Spangles, 1s. 1,000; Jewels, 10d. 100; ¼in. 1s., ½in. 1s. 9d. 100; Coins or Stars 10d., 1s. 100; Gauze (Gold or Silver), 10½d. yd.; Braid (¼in.), 10d. doz.; 1in. 15d. Write for Lists of Jewellery, &c., D. R.E.V.E., Maldon, Essex.

"WHAT A GAME!" REVUE.

WANTED to Sell, Entire Production, Scenery, Effects, Dresses, &c. Very cheap. Address, BLISS, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

WANTED Known, Humorous Recitation on Titles of Plays, 1s. 6d.; Set Curate Patter, 1s. 6d.; Set Yokel, 1s. 6d.; splendid songs; stamp list. W. KEENE, 2a, Lessingham-avenue, Tooting, London.

WANTED, to Sell, superb Portable Theatre, second to none; entire shutter roof; all rake floor; every seat backed; size, 81ft. x 37; stage, 21ft. x 11; all to carry on own wagons; superbly lighted, gas, electric, paraffin, or acetylene. Seat 600. All includes over £1,000 worth. For lowest price, etc., apply where it can be inspected, to W. H. WEIGHT, Theatre, Belton-lane, Grantham.

WANTED, Wanted to Sell,
GRAMOPHONE DE LUXE.
£25 Model, Dainty Drawing-room Cabinet, Opera Grande, standing 4 feet, on castors, beautifully inlaid; new this year; with quantity of celebrated Records.
£5 10s. Approval.
4, Oxford-terrace,
Hyde Park, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Costumes (French, English, etc.), rifles, revolvers, scenery, timber, new canvas, furniture, fittings, cinema cameras, studio arc lamps, etc.; must be sold. THE BRITISH FILM CO., Ravensbury Lodge, Mitcham. 'Phone: Mitcham 1532.

WANTED to Sell, Tights (New), superior 2s. 9d., Bodies, ditto; Ballet Shoes (New), 1s. 9d.; Dress Vests, 1s. 6d.; Opera Hats, Frock Coats, Dress Suits, Naval Outfits, Military Tunics, Top Boots, &c., &c. LESTER'S, The Famous Theatrical Caterers, 99, Antill-rd., Bow, London (Coborn-rd., G.E.R.).

WANTED, to Sell, Tip-up Velvet Chairs, complete, with gold bronzed standards. Actual maker, HELLENBRAND, 113, New North-road, Islington, London.

WANTED to Sell, Electric Stage Limes (four), all complete and ready for use, consisting of strong sheet-steel box stove, enamelled, fitted with inspection window, mounted on crutch and supplied with a set of coloured mediums, powerful 6in. lens, filled in special carrier; easily removed for flooding purposes, &c., and my special arc lamp. Honestly worth £5 10s. each, my price 37s. 6d. each. These lamps are in actual use at all the principal London and provincial halls. Walter Passmore writes: "Cheque for stage limes enclosed, and I am delighted with their wonderful effect and value."
Write now,
A. W. ROWLANDS.
41, Vaughan-road, Harrow.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Pilgrim's Automatic Acetylene Gas Generator; drive 80 lights 3 hours; no attention; new this summer; cost £15. First £4 secures same. Inspection invited. W. WEIGHT, Theatre, Belton-lane, Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell, Pekingese Puppies; exceptional opportunity; tiny, red, with flat, black masks; champion pedigree; moderate prices. Country orders carriage paid. Call or write, 36, Buxton-gardens, Acton Hill, London.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED to Buy, Secondhand Music for Trio; Tavan selections, Waldteufel waltzes, suites, &c., in good condition; must be cheap.
Box 7,633, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED to Let, "A Woman's Past," "A Sister's Sacrifice," "Soldier and a Man," "What a Man Made Her," "Destroyer of Men," Sutton Vane, Herbert Leonard, Charles Rogers, Frank Harvey, Mary Neill's Dramas. WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted Known, the excellent War Play, "Held by the Enemy," to Let.
Apply, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED to Let, Dates in January, onwards, BYCULLAH ATHENÆUM, ENFIELD; any kind of good-class entertainment; scenery, electric lighting. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted to Let, at once,
owing to dissolution of partnership,
Theatre,
Fully Licensed for
Pictures,
Varieties,
and Drama.
Just been thoroughly decorated, inside and out.
12 miles from London.
Now opened, and doing good business.
Will take a small ingoing for machinery and goodwill, &c.
Must settle at once.
Box 7,629, "The Era."

STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.

WANTED, To Let, the Victoria Theatre, situated on front street; best position in the town; in the midst of a populous district; licensed for Dramatic and Cinematograph performances; holds about 1,000 people; stage, 40 x 22. Immediate possession can be given, as present proprietor is retiring. Only principals or their solicitors need apply.

T. C. RAWES,
39, Old Elvet, Durham.

WANTED, to Let, Hall, in the Midlands, situated in populous working-class neighbourhood; full dramatic, variety, and cinematograph licence; twice nightly; suit hustler.
Apply, A. B., Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED to Let, Sylvan Palace, Elysian-grove, Aberystwyth, from now to May, for a good Picture or Variety Show. Seating about 600. Good business. About 10,000 Territorials in town. Only two small shows open. Variety preferred. Apply, immediately, VAUGHAN, Grove.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, to Let, the Advertising Rights of the Curtain and Programme at above theatre from March next.
Address, H. MASTERMAN, Manager.

WANTED to Let, ready-fitted Fish Snack Refreshment Bar; next door to new General Post Office, Northampton; trade never better. Next door to Let, ready-fitted Shop, as new; suit Pork Butcher, Continental Delicacies; opportunity for energetic people; immediate possession. COOLEY, 26, Market-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, four Unfurnished Rooms (one as kitchen), in private house.
Near a Tube station.
Box 7,646, "The Era."

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianiste (Lady); Vocalist preferred; as partner, with moderate capital, for Novel Vaudeville C.P. by manager having special booking experience; excellent opening; good ref.; London interview. Box 7,640, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted Known, Young Gentleman desires to Exchange French, Italian, Spanish, or German with young artiste, preference cinema actor, for English.

L. OLZA, 15, Coulson-street, S.W.

WANTED, by Artist's Model, Engagement as Statue, or to assist Illusionist; complexion dark; height 5ft. Address, MISS COOMBER, 54, Coleridge-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

WANTED, Wanted, Five Grooms, immediately.
Must be steady and reliable.
Address,
J. SWALLOW,
6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Mr. Henry Hare to communicate immediately with MISS DORIS FOOTH re agreement signed Old Sergeants Inn, March 17, 1905. 9, Maiden-lane, Strand. Urgent.

WANTED, a Few More Managers like Fred. Baugh, who paid full salaries, in spite of the short week, at Christmas. Best wishes and thanks. The Ladies and Gentlemen of "The Sailor's Wedding" Co.

BAND PARTS, SONGS, Etc.

G. D. FOX, COMPOSER AND ARRANGER.
WANTED Known. My special terms are from 3s. 6d. for 12 parts (stamp for list). Composing, Transposing, and Harmonising, Band Book special, from 5s. 6d. per dozen; sample, small size, 9d.; large size, 1s. Note name and address: G. D. FOX & SONS, Entertainment Bureau, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED Known, Melodies Composed, 1s. 6d.; Piano Score, 2s. 6d.; Band Parts, 3s. 6d. (ten), 5s. 6d. (fourteen). WESTERN, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

TOM H. TOWNSON.
WANTED Known, Songs, Parodies, Sketches, &c. Copy testimonials on application. Special offer, 100 Original Gags 1s. 1d. Residential Office, 94, Park-road, Lightwoods, Birmingham.

The Angels' Serenade.
By WM. ROBERTON.

The German Spy.
By N. E. TORRY and F. B. HUMPHRIES.

Both these Attractions are VACANT MONDAY NEXT, and a few weeks in February and March.
Managers and Agents please note—I have sole rights of these Sketches, and both are fully protected; anyone infringing same will be prosecuted.
Wire for MONDAY NEXT. This—COUTTS' CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Next—11, Valma Road, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.

Sensational success of the world-famous author, the late Charles Dickens' novel,

"THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP"

at the Hippodrome, Aldershot, topping the bill, played by first-class London Artistes, including the great SHIEL DU BARRY as "Quilp."

Hundreds turned away at each performance. Refer management. UNEXPECTEDLY VACANT MONDAY. Wire—Managers who want a top. This is the greatest Dickens' play that has ever been produced.

"THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP" IN 30 MINUTES

Everything carried in keeping with Dickens' century. Vacant through barring clause.

Telegrams: "CARPETS, BIRMINGHAM." Telephone: 3834 Central.

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BECK & WINDIBANK, Ltd.

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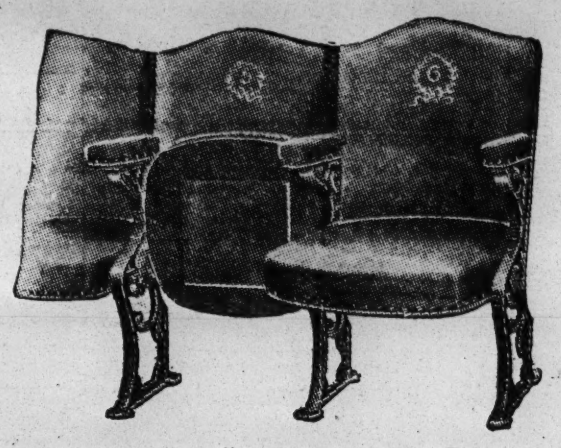

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THE HALL MARK OF THEATRE FURNISHING

Luxury with economy. THE "BECKWIN" CHAIR No. 28. Price 18/6 each. Fixed complete.

If you are about to furnish or refurnish your Theatre GO DIRECT TO THE MANUFACTURERS.

TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES OF SPECIAL DESIGNS. CARPETS, FLOOR COVERINGS AND BRASS WORK OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Write for particulars. Our Mr. Windibank will be with you by return.

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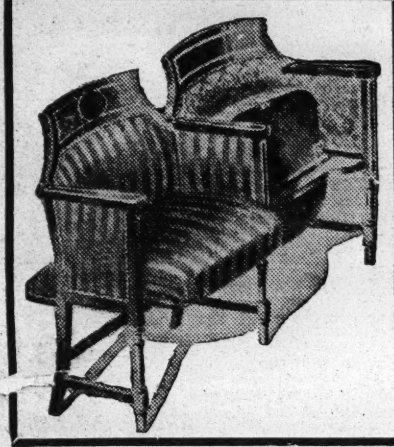

FRED WILKINS

AND BROTHER. LTD.,

MANUFACTURERS & EXPORTERS

of every description of

THEATRE FURNISHINGS AND FITTINGS, FIRE CURTAINS, SCENERY, DECORATING, ELECTRIC LIGHTING SPECIALITIES,

Head Office and Works—27/35, Duke St., LIVERPOOL.

LONDON: Motograph House, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

NOTICE.

Although Great Britain is at present engaged in war, we have pleasure in notifying our customers that our works and offices will be kept open, and business will be conducted as usual, with our full staff.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

(Signed) FRANK WILKINS, S. T. COHN,

August 11, 1914. Managing Directors.

SCENIC ADVERTISEMENTS.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery; first-class work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS and JAMES A. HICKS, Painting Room, old Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 4, 1915.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"Business as Usual," and Star Company.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chas. Cohan, Trio Belge, Bioscope, Fred Russell, Joe and Willie, George Lashwood, Shirley Kellogg, Edith Fink.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chas. Whittle, Molly Wells, Tom Jones, Evelyn and Clayton, Bioscope, "Beauties."

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for—
Pantomime "Cinderella."

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Maud Courtney and Mr. C., Bioscope, Harry Atkinson, Frank Le Dent, "The Case of Johnny Walker," Zigeuner Quartette, Scott and Whaley, Gertie Gitana.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Ona and Isolde, Correa and La Criolitta, Picture Entertainment, Volta and Maude.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Jock McKay, Belle Davis, Aldon and Loupe, Bioscope, Chas. Mildare, Kavanaghs, Irma Lorraine.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Vera Wootton, Eddie Astor, O'Gorman Bros., Bioscope, Harlequinaders, Phil Ray, Carson and Bryan.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Brown, Bioscope, Artois Bros., Conway George, "Parlez Vous Français."

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Sammy Shields, Rose Sartella, Four Swifts, Mannie Gibert, Bioscope, "The Follies."

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Barry Raine, Piquays, Bioscope, Stannelli and Carados, Larry Lewis, Ernest Krake, Violet Stockelle, Victoria Monks.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"What Would You Do?" French Turco Arabs, Eric Godley, Dave Samuels, Will Van Allen, Kasracs, Bioscope, Dolly Elsworthy.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Gerald Griffin, Denziloe Trio, Austin and Lawton, Will Gardner, Three Theodorowitch, Cassie Walmer, Bioscope, Bradshaw Bros.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Venus, Ltd.," Bioscope.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Hannefords, Griffiths Bros, Capt. Taylor's Four Rascals, Tchinn, Maa Troupe, Benedetti Bros, Marquise Dassie, Dalton's Dogs, Gudzow, Woodward's Seals, Ping and Pong, Miss Silvani.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"The Red Heads," Christy and Willis, Bioscope, Mason and Bart, Talbot O'Farrel, Quaint Q's.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mark Sheridan, Terry and Lambert, Selbit's "Spirit Paintings," Fred Durant, Sinclair's Three Diamonds, Rosie Archer, Carr Lynn, Bioscope, Clive and Bunyea.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Passing Events," Bioscope, Jock Whiteford, Chas Vincent, Dolly Victoria Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Horace Hunter, Selbit's "Shadow People," Trumpeter Henri Greve, Bioscope, Gus Garrick, Pasquali Bros., Donald and Carson.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred and May, "Mumming Birds," Vernon Watson, Bioscope, Braine and Reeve, the Mountfords, Athas and Collins.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Frank and Vesta, 5 Symphony Girls, Harry Berbert, Bioscope, "Honeymoon Express."

NEW EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE
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EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Fight Prizer," Freddie Hackin, Musical Johnstons, Griff, &c.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Should a Woman Tell?" Magini, Lillian Carter, Jack Thomas, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Phil and Phlora, Jack Murray, Huley and Bent, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S T., WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Goody Two Shoes."

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Three Hylands, Edna Lyall, Coquelli, Des Desborough, Almas, Empirescope, Pathé Gazette.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fire-proofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (*a*) West End, (*b*) Suburban, (*c*) Large and (*d*) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinees are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields**, at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (*a*) in the case of singers copies of the songs and patter, (*b*) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's License, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.

(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager**, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

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TIVOLI.
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METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15
Miss Hilda Glyder and Co. in "Le Petit Cabaret," Gladys Purnell and Co. in "Wm. 'Emery's Wedding," Edna Payne, The Eleven Romps, Halma, The Diddle 'Ums, Jesse Jacobsen, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12
Alec Flood and Pierre de Reeder's Co., "Robinson Crusoe," F. V. St. Clair, Edna Payne, Arthur D'Orville, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12
Marie Lloyd, Ernie Lotinga & Co. in "Bluebottles," George D'Albert, Jean Schwiller, Tom Stuart, Austen Temple, Walter Emerson, Gwennie Hasto, Louis Victor and Partner, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12
The Jewells, The Four Londons, Janette Denarber, E. Thornley-Dodge, Florence Cooper, The Eleven Romps, Gerald Arnoldi, Beth Tate, The Dublin Desmonds, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1
Arthur Rigby's Co., "Little Red Riding Hood."

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12
Grossmith and Laurillard's Co. "Potash and Perlmutter."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2
Alhambra Company, Ltd., "Keep Smiling," Elly Beadell, Harry Bedford, Nell Derry, Bioscope.

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12
Geo. Pickett and Mary Mayfren's Co. "The Frenchwoman."
Binns and Binns, Jack Norworth, Billie Butt, Ama s King and Benson, Dick Tubb, Daisy Stratton, Lollette and Lord, Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1
Joe Peterman's Co., "The Stationmaster," "The Hairdresser," "Britannia's Honour," Jenny Robbins, Kenneth Seymour, Frank Wood, Mabel Thorne, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR JANUARY 4, 1915.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Irene Vanbrugh, Norman McKinnel & Co. in Barrie's "Der Tag," Mme. Lydia Yavorska & Co in "For Russia," Alfred Lester, Spizzi's Patriotic Chorus, Imperial Russian Ballet, Cooper Mitche ll Haley's Juveniles, Hanlon Bros. and Co., Ginnett's Boy Army, Bioscope.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Thornton and Wagner, Edris Coombs Trio, The Craggs, Tom and Baby, The Dennisons, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Forest Tell, Four Powers, Harry Ford, George Newburn, Gladys Parkinson, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Terry Twins, Jack Lorimer, "Papering a House," Wirth Family, Van Camp Pigs, Evans and Holland, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Romanoff, Bert Coote and Co., Wallace Lupino, Ernest Shand, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
J. H. Scotland, "Parker on the Panel," Morton and Bowman, James Stewart, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Oscar Leyton, Ernie Ream, "Say When," Bioscope.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Happy Tom Parker, Chatam, Cooper and Lait, Chris Van Bern, Cissie Curlette, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
"Jack and Jill," Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Thora, Daisy Sloan, Cornalla and Eddie, Bioscope.

FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.
Pictures.

NOTE—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

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ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration

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ATLAS and the Beautiful VULCANA TROUPE. Dec. 28, Agricultural Hall. Require Jan. 4, 18, 25. Add., Gosford Lodge, Fulham.

BELMONT, GEO. E., who started the craze of Twice Nightly, Sebright, 1885. Now Boss of "Belmont's," opposite Palace Theatre, London. House of call for all artistes.

BRIGHT BROS. John Bull's Athletes. On Active Service, Fighting for King, Country, and Honour. Coms., 21, Bellefields-rd., Brixton, S.W.

HOPE, MISS. GABRIELLE, in a Charming Musical Act. Rickards, S. Africa. Coms., 22, Henslow-rd., E. Dulwich, S.E.

JAFFA, Comedy Conjurer. This week, Hippo., Cheltenham. Monday next, Regent, Salford. De Frece's Agency.

SOLO, FRED, and His Merry Maids. Messrs. Melrose and Reading's "Aladdin" Co. Tour. Abanaza and Speciality.

WEBB, BROS. A Happy New Year to You. King's Theatre, Southsea.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. This, St. George's T., Kendal. Vac. Jan. 4, on.

CONCERT ARTISTES.

The Rates for Concert Artistes' Cards in this column are as follows:—
Three Lines for One Insertion, 6d. Thirteen Insertions, 5s. 0d. Additional Lines pro rata.

HARRY HALL. Humorous Songs and Stories. "SARTORIAL SPECIALIST TO THE PROFESSION." Artistes recommended, free of charge, shortest notice, Town or Country, for Concerts, Banquets, &c. 'Phones, Museum 820 and 821, City 2086. 207, Oxford-street, W., and 149, Cheapside, E.C. (near St. Paul's).

FRANK A. HEWITT, Tenor. Concerts, Banquets, Receptions, &c. Also Concerts arranged. Apply, 54, Vicarage-rd., Camberwell, S.E.

CLUNN LEWIS'S PUPPETS. Bazaars, Schools, Private Parties, &c. 17, Penge-lane, Penge, S.E.

J. H. RAY, Scotch Character Vocalist. Concerts, Receptions, Banquets, &c. 4, Frederick-road, Kennington, S.E.

BASIL H. RICHARDSON, Ventriloquist and Character Impersonator. Booked for Spring Tour to Berlin with Kitchener's party. Don't forget his address when he returns. Perm. address, 252, Knight's-hill, West Norwood, S.E.

ERIC VICTOR. (The Unique Lady!) "Marchioness de Cadie." THEATRE ROYAL, BATH.

MISS MARIE LLOYD.

This week, THE OXFORD.

Sole Representative, Walter Bentley.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA.

Queen of Domestic Comedy.

Address, Milton Hall, Loughborough-park, Brixton, S.W.

"Emmie's Christmas Tree."
Huge Success on Tour.

EMMIE AMES.
Huge Success ON TOUR.

Per. address, Hippodrome, Wisbech.

'Phone, Wisbech 116.

FLORRIE FORDE.

Own Pantomime Tour.

"CINDERELLA."

HIPPODROME, SHEFFIELD.

The Incomparable Character Comedy Artiste.

MILLIE PAYNE.

This week SURREY THEATRE.

Letters, c/o Mr. H. Thurston.
'Phone, 6657 Hampstead.

MARJORIE STEVENS.
"The English Pavlova."
appearing as Mlle. Paris in
"EUROPE" with great success.

This, HIPPO., PORTSMOUTH.
Next, HIPPO., BRIGHTON.
Victoria Palace to follow.

MISS CECILIA LOFTUS.

Stoll Tour.

This week, EMPIRE, WOOD GREEN.

Next week, EMPIRE, CHISWICK.

MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON.

Enormous success of Pantomime,

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

"The lads of the village" a riot.

A Happy New Year to All Friends.

ARTISTES' AGENTS.

ASHTON'S ROYAL AGENCY.
(Ashton and Mitchell, Ltd.)

VARIETY DEPARTMENT
(Manager, W. H. Price).

Note change of address,
38, CRANBOURN-STREET,
W.C.

Telephone, Regent 2871.

Telegrams, "Frolic, Westrand, London."

RUFE NAYLOR'S
WORLD'S VARIETY AGENCY,

226, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Telephone, Regent 1621.

Booking Acts.
8 Provincial Halls.
3 London Halls.
6 to 14 Weeks Africa.
20 Weeks Australia.
4 Weeks India.

MADAME MAY WALTER'S
Variety and Dramatic Agency.
46, Fitzroy-street, W.

Orchestras (Ladies and Gents). Répertoire, 8,000.

Singer of All Her Own Songs.

MISS LILLIE LANGTRY,

ALADDIN, GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

No one has permission to
sing my songs.

MY FANCY.

"The" Dancer.

This week, BEDFORD PALACE.

Next week, PALACE, SOUTHPORT.

All communications,
Harry Bawn, Empire-bldgs., Edmonton, N.

MISS DAISY JAMES.
Everybody's Favourite

as Dick Whittington.
This week, Hippodrome, Willesden.
Jan. 4, Empire, Islington.

Coms., 65, Sudbourne-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.
'Phone, 2115 Brixton.

The Essence of Charm.

RENE RALPH.

Enormous success as JACK
in "Jack and the Beanstalk."
THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL.

MAY ERNE and "HE."

"Patched Ballads"
and "Pot Shots."

Jan. 4, HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.

BAY RUSSELL.
The New Star Comedian.

Tremendous success as DAME,

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.

Agents, Peel's, Ltd., and Tom Shaw and Co.

MR. GUS ELEN.

Business Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley,
168, Brixton-road, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR LENNARD.

On Tour.

Messrs. Tom Shaw and Co.

WILKIE BARD.

Pantomime.

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

ATTENTION!

MARK SHERIDAN
in
Latest Military Répertoire.

This week, HIPPO., BRIGHTON.

Next week, PALACE, HULL.

COOPER MITCHELL,
of the London Coliseum, &c.

Song and Story at the Piano.

This week, HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

'Phone, Chiswick 1112, and
Ashton's Royal Agency.

FRED BARNES,
the Famous Light Comedy Star.

Pantomime,
THEATRE ROYAL, NEWCASTLE.

Booked on Starring Engagements until 1924.

"Remember Louvain!"

MR. LEO DRYDEN.
"Remember Louvain!"
This week, EMPIRE, SMETHWICK.
Next week GRAND, GRAVESEND.
See ad. below.

"The Jockey."
by Wal Pink.

JOE ELVIN.

This week, CAMBERWELL and HAMMERSMITH.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS.

THE PALACE, LONDON.

Business Manager, Ernest Edelston.

T. E. DUNVILLE.
London always.
Gulliver's Travels, 4 trips nightly.

Letters, c/o "The Era."

Aldershot goes wild over
"Follow the Drum." Soldiers on march sing it as they once sung "Cheer up, Buller."

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR,

whose "Follow the Drum" is the greatest Chorus out.

OLYMPIA, GLASGOW.

ARTHUR WOODVILLE.

Agents,
G. and F. Peel.

TOM CLARE.

The Entertainer at the Piano.

This week, LIVERPOOL.

A Hit! A Hit!! A Hit!!!
Instantaneous success.
Press and Public loud in their praise of
MR. HARRY CONLIN
(as Mrs. Dolly Dimple).
Thanks to all friends
for wires and good wishes.
LYCEUM THEATRE, LONDON.
(Dame).
Agent, Mr. Geo. Foster.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, by MAISIE COYNE, Just a Comedienne, Jan. 11, 25.
This, Kino, North Shields.
Next, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, Jan. 4 and 25 (Midlands). LITTLE MAUDIE WINSTON (over 14), Juvenile Comedienne and Dancer, with large variety of songs. War terms.
For Attractive Turn, wire,
Empire, Otley, near Leeds;
or through Agents.

WANTED, by FLORENCE LEONARD, Charming Mezzo-Soprano. Vacant, Monday next, Jan. 4, 11. Wire, 2, Market-road, Doncaster. Thanks Mr. G. G. Smart, Royal, Consett, for paying in full Christmas week.

WANTED Known, LILY CLIFFORD, the Popular Tyrolean and Chorus Songstress. Always a success. Vac., Jan. 4, 11, 18.
Offers, 82, Suffolk-road, Sheffield.

ADA GATLEY,
the Girl on the Swinging Wire.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 4 and 11.
Wire, Picturedrome, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, also Jan. 11 and 25, by MARIE ROSELLE, the charming Soprano; distance no object if terms are right. Wire for Monday next, COURT, 40, Bank-street, Accrington.

WANTED, Monday next, by EILEEN and MAY, Brilliant Novel Musical Act, Picturesque Refined Dancers.
This week, Hippo., Wombwell.

The Charming and Talented
SISTERS WEBB (Tina and Inga).
Refined Musical Speciality.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 4 and 25.
Wire, Business Manager, JoJo Webb,
King's T., Southsea.
A Happy New Year to All.
P.A., 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

MADAME VAN EARLE presents
SISTERS VAN EARLE, the Dashing Boy and Charming Girl. The Incomparable Duo. Always a success in their Artistic Singing and Dancing Scena.
This, Public Hall, Briton Ferry.
Next, Victoria Hall, Lye.
WANTED, Jan. 11 (to precede Gateshead).
Also Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22.
Also DAINTY BELLE ISOBEL.
The Little Lady with a Wonderful Voice.
Direct from London Halls.
Now in 7th Year of Tour.
An Ornament to any Bill.
Vacant, Jan. 4 and 11.
Coms. direct to Public Hall, Briton Ferry.

Wire! Wire! Wire!
SISTERS LAVARRA,
Dutch Comediennes, in Smart Dancing Act.
WANTED, Monday. This, Lyceum, Taunton.
Wire, to save time, 17, Portland-street.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, by STANLEY WATSON, Spec., Red, White and Blue Pierrot, songs in character, voc. with trained voice. Wire or write, Wadbrook's Theatre, Milford Haven.

WANTED, Jan. 11, 18, 25. SABINO presents his great English Musical Speciality; grand Illuminated Stage Setting; success guaranteed. Wire, this, Grand Theatre, Padiham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, HORACE MONTO,
the Original Versatile Soldier Musician, in his Novel Musical Scena, "Tommy Atkins at Play."
Wire, 68, Grasmere-rd., Lancaster. Sure success and a sure draw.

WANTED, Wanted Monday next,
CLIVE WATTS,
Eccentric Comedian and Dancer.
Wire, Tivoli, Haydock, Lancashire. Any distance.

WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 11, 18, 25,
DAN LAWLEY,
Pattering Dame and Eccentric.
Wires, 111, Brook-street, Kennington, London.

WANTED Known, FRED HORSFALL.
Vacant Jan. 11, 18, and 25. Smart Tyrolean Vocalist and Mimic of Sounds. Address, 24, Burton-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 11, 18,
SAM ELLO, Comedian and Dancer,
ALBERT, Novelty Ventriloquist
(Four Figures). Good Stage Setting.
Two distinct acts. Last week, Emp., Swadlincote.
This, 27, Clarence-st., Humberstone Gate,
Leicester.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, 18, 25, by the Famous New Coon Star, ERIC CUNLIFFE, London's Popular Magnetic Coon. In all his latest successes, from all the principal music halls. Enormous success the Tivoli, Manchester. Caused a furore at the Empire, Middleton. All coms., wires for above dates, direct, c/o The Grapes, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, on, by SID ROYD,
Burlesque Character Comedian. He of the Voice.
New to S. Wales and Scotland.
Wire, 14, Elden-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by SILENT TAIT and AMEE, Eccentric Novelty Act, Jan. 11, 18. Wire or write to, Dec. 28, Pavilion, Alloa, Scotland. Jan. 4, Pavilion, Dumbarton, Scotland.

WANTED. Monday next and few immediate dates, by
TEDDY WORTH.
A Comedian with an Act that always spells success.
Many thanks to Mr. Will Sh— for contracts after seeing act—and he knows something.
Wire, Hippo., Nottingham.

WANTED, Jan. 4, 11, and 18 (North),
BOSANQUET,
the Human Violin.
Palace, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Monday next, also 11 and 25, to follow Strood, Kent, GEO. PAGE, the Versatile Com. and Dancer. Good Voice, Comedy, Clog and Eccentric Dancing. Wire war terms. Artistes' Club, Dalston. After 6, Th. Royal, Edmonton.

WANTED Known, Vacant next Monday; also Jan. 11.
T. E. JOHNSTONE,
Popular Light Comedian, Chorus War Songs.
Fourth return here.
Wire (house address), 15, New-street, Hanley.

WANTED, by BOND ROWELL, Immaculate Comedian, Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25.
Wire or write, 19, Windsor-terrace, South Shields.
Wanted also, a Good Agent.

WANTED, Wanted, Next Week,
BU-VAL,
the Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
Central Hall, Selby.

WANTED, by JIM SURREY,
Character Comedian,
Monday next, on.
26, Alfred-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, by MARCUS BOYLE, Comedian.
Created roars of laughter.—"Harrogate Gazette."
Wire, 4, Player-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 11,
HARRY LUCK,
the Popular Comedian.
Wire, Empire, Wakefield.

J. W. HALL, Comedian,
Gaiety, Birmingham.
WANTED, Jan. 4 and 25. After Saturday, Westholm, Highbury-avenue, Blackpool.

JOEY STERLING, Comedian.
WANTED, Wanted. Monday, Jan. 4, also Jan. 11.
Wire, 6, Railway-terrace, Cross-lane, Salford.

COLIN CARLISLE,
The Real Vocal Comedian (Own Lithos).
WANTED, Jan 4 (through obliging agents), 11, 18. Wire, 7, Tenby-rd., Moseley, Birmingham.

WANTED, by J. C. MORRIS,
the Droll Comedian, Monday next,
Jan. 4, 11, 18. No vulgarity.
95, Nicholas-street, London, N.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 4 and 11, by the Great TOM E. CLIFFE, Comedian and Dancer, Whistleologist, and the Real Goods. Wire for "A" Performer, TOMMY CLIFFE, 20-V, Guest-street, London, E.C., or 'phone 2014 London Wall.

WANTED, by N. C. BOSTOCK and NELLIE ELLIENE, Jan. 4 and 11. The greatest success in the North. We defy the Kaiser, we defy competition. Hartlepool cheered. Wire, 290, St. Cuthbert's-road. Gateshead.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, POOLE and POOLE.
22-Carat Comedy Couple, in Skit, "The Persevering Porter." Wire, Hippo., Featherstone.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11, by THE WARRENS, Comedy Knockabouts, including Mafeon Williams, A.R.A.M., the Welsh Nightingale, Singing, Dancing, Posturing, Tumbling, Clever Tricks, &c. Wire, Palace, Audley, North Staffordshire.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, also Jan. 11,
WILLIAMS and HAYES.
The Refined Vocal Comedy Artistes.
"THE PRIMA DONNA AND THE TRAMP."
This, Picturedrome, Nantwich.
Wires,
114, Hospital-street, Nantwich.

WANTED Known, DAN GREGORY and LYDIA. Musical Acrobatic Eccentrics, wish All Friends, Managers, and Agents a Happy New Year. This week appearing with success, Olympia, Glasgow. Next week, Jan. 4, Pavilion, Saltcoats, Scotland. The above speciality is vacant for Jan. 11, 1915.

WANTED, Jan. 11 and 25, by JACK CLARE, Chocolate Coloured Coon.
Also
MABEL COMELY, Eccentric Comedienne.
This week, Prince's, Horwich, Lancs.
Next week, Picture Palace, Girvan, Ayr.
Thanks to J. A. Macqueen's Agency for Contracts.
A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Monday, also
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THEO. MAURITUS,
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THEO. MAURITUS.
The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
Wire,
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Wire,
Pavilion, Peebles, Scotland.
Pavilion, Peebles, Scotland.
Pavilion, Peebles, Scotland.
Pavilion, Peebles, Scotland.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 4 and 11, by AMOR and ROMA.
Great Harmony and Comedy Act entitled
"OUR LADS IN NAVY BLUE."
"OUR LADS IN NAVY BLUE."
Special Scenery. Up-to-date Gorgeous Setting.
Including
Six Local Boys Dressed as Sailors.
Wire or write.
This week, County Theatre, Shrewsbury.
House address, 23a, Princess-street.

MABEL and CLIFF DIAMOND,
in a Singing and Dancing Scena.
Two Distinct Scenes.
Own Cloths Carried.
WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 4 (between OLDHAM and BELFAST, North preferred).
To save time, wire, Palace, Oldham.

WANTED, Jan. 4, 11 (later), DAVIES AND UDALL, Great Comedy Sketch, "The Grumbler," 100 laughs, 15 minutes. Own scene. Wire offers, 21, Walton-street, Preston.

WANTED, by ESS AND HOEY, Monday next, also Jan. 11. Novel Winter Singing and Dancing Act. Originators and only Double-ski and Snow-shoe Dancers. Wire, 117, Hayles buildings, Southwark.

WANTED, Jan. 4, 18, and Feb. 1, by BARNARD and BUNNY.
The Act that is a Novelty. Wire at once for a Good Comedy Act. This, Bunny, Palace, Oldham.

WANTED, Jan. 11 and 25, by NEIL and CREEDON.
Novel Comedy Speciality Act.
Lady and Gent. Club Juggling, Ball Punching, Baton Spinning, Singing, Dancing, &c.
This week, Palace Theatre, Redcar.

WANTED, Jan. 11 and 18, by
WALDO AND WADE,
"The Pranks of a Postman."
Vocal and Burlesque Comedy Speciality.
This week and next,
Gaiety Theatre, Methil, Fifeshire.

WANTED, by HEELEY and CRAWFORD, Comedy Entertainers; essence of refinement. This, third return, Kino, North Shields. Next, third return, King's, Kirkcaldy. Vac., Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8.

WANTED Known, Vacant Monday next, HARRY and ELLA, The Harcourts, Renowned Comedy and Harmony Duo. Vacant Jan. 4 and 11. Any distance. Wire, this, Colseum, Bury St. Edmunds.

SILVO and SYLVIA.
SILVO and SYLVIA.
Musical Glasses Soloists.
WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11.
Wire, 50, Woodbine-street, Salford.

WANTED, by GLADYS and ALBER, English Comedy Artistes, introducing Song, Story and the cleverest Tumbling before the public, including the marvellous feat of turning Swing Forward Somersaults from Knees. Vacant Jan. 18 and month of Feb. This week, Pavilion, Newcastle. Next, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Jan. 11, 18, 25, by THE MUSICAL YEOMANS
(Master Musicians).
A big top liner on any programme. Expert xylophones, cornets, euphoniums, and bell soloists.
Wire, this, Palace, Dinnington, nr. Rotherham.

WANTED, Jan. 11, onwards, ARCHIE GIBBON and LUISE, Unique Comedy Knockabout and Dancing Act, introducing Greatest Eccentric Acrobatic Pianist in Vaudeville. This week, Palace, Kilmarnock. Next, Empire, Grangemouth. N.B.—Any distance.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 4, Jan. 4, the GREAT ROHDE and ROCHE,
featuring
"THE CHAMELEON, THE ARTIST, and IT."
An Original and Clever Comedy Pot-pourri Act. Second return (topping), Palace, Irlam, near Manchester. House, 58, Portsmouth-street, C.-on-M., Manchester. Start the New Year good and wire quick. Also vacant. Jan. 18, 25, on.

WANTED, Jan. 11, onwards, except Jan. 25, March 1, 15, 29.
MR. LEO DRYDEN,
of
"Miner's dream of home,"
"Call us, and we'll soon be there,"
"Remember Louvain," and
"India's reply" renown.
This week, Empire, Smethwick.
Next week, Grand, Gravesend.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 25, 1915.
by
OS'CARIUS,
the celebrated
CONTINENTAL MIMIC.
Assisted by
MISS MELA,
including the little Belgian Army.
TO
MANAGERS, PROPRIETORS, AND AGENTS.
OS'CARIUS and MISS MELA
are
BELGIAN REFUGEES.
Record bus., last, Empire, Dovercourt.
This, Empire, Cambridge.
Next, Hippodrome, Peterborough.
P.A., 36, Sharsted St., Kennington Park, London.
NEW, NEW, NEW FOR ENGLAND.

RENNIE and ROXBURGH
(Cliff and Hilda),
Enormous success, Palace, Kirkcaldy.
Big attraction. The talk of every town.
The Most Novel Musical Act Extant.
"THE OLD TIN CANS!"
A Comedy Scream away from all.
(Patent Reg. No. 919,211.)
WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, Shares or cert. Wire, Palace, Kirkcaldy.

World Renowned English Musical Grotesques.
THE BROS. WEBB
(JoJo and Roté).
WANTED, Jan. 11, 18, and 25.
This week, King's Theatre, Southsea.
P.A., 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, Monday, by THE TWO DANIELS, Original Laughable Brack Funniosities, Ideal Entertainers, and Expert Dancers. Wire, Town Hall, Bilston.

WEDBURNS.
Comedians, Vocalists, Instrumentalists.
Dec. 28, Pavilion, Ashton-under-Lyne.
Jan. 4, Star Palace, Partick, Glasgow.
WANTED Known, Vacant, Jan. 11, 18, 25.

WANTED Known, MARSHALL and MACK, Burlesque Comedians (assisted by Miss GRACIE DORMER), Vacant, Monday next, Jan. 4, and Jan. 18. Wire, this, Empire, Shildon, Co. Durham.

THE PAGET TRIO.
English Concertina Experts.
WANTED, Jan. 4 and 11.
6, Fernholme-road, Nunhead, London.

THREE FLORADORAS,
Screaming Comedy. Sure draw.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 4.
Wire, New Empire, Abertridwr, S. Wales.

WANTED, Jan. 4, 11, by HOWE AND LORNE TRIO, Brilliant Comedy, Instrumentalists, and Harmonised Vocalists. Wire, Hippodrome; or, 4 Coronation-sq., King's Lynn.

THE NEWTON TRIO,
Comedy, Singing, Dancing Novelty.
WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 18.
Wire, Palace, Chichester, Sussex.

WANTED, Monday, the FRASER TRIO (one lady, two gents); Vocal and Dancing Act. Enormous success everywhere. Wire, Amity Hall, Poole.

WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 11.
THE HAPPI-GO-LUCKYS.
(Four People.) Including
SANDY POWELL,
A REAL COMEDIAN,
and
LILLIE LE MAIN,
Singing, Dancing, Comedy.
Wire for Monday, Hippodrome, or 20, Corporation-street, Workington.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 11,
THE FIVE FLAKES.
THE FIVE FLAKES.
Four Dainty Little Ladies; One Gent. Expert Vocalists and Dancers. Gorgeous Scenery and Electric Effects. If in doubt refer to Mr. H. Herbert, Palace, Jacksdale, re enormous success last week. Refer again this week.
Wire, Palace, Arnold, Notts (return).

WANTED, for CORBIN'S DOGS, Jan. 4 11.
Wire, CORBIN,
93, Hackford-road, Brixton, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

JOSH CLIFTON'S
Great Comedy Top Liner.
Great Comedy Top Liner.
Great Comedy Top Liner.
5 X RAYS.
5 X RAYS.
5-X RAYS.
Mad Athletes.
See these Boxing Midgets. A scream from start to finish.
This week,
EMPIRE, HOLBORN,
and
PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 4, 11, and 18.
Wire, wire, WILL OLIVER, or direct,
JOSH CLIFTON,
16, Alexandra-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Jan. 4, 1915, by
THE FIVE MUSICAL TRITONS.
THE FIVE MUSICAL TRITONS.
THE FIVE MUSICAL TRITONS.
THE FIVE MUSICAL TRITONS.
THE FIVE MUSICAL TRITONS.
Vocalists and Instrumentalists.
All Latest Novelties.
New, Gorgeous, Electrically Illuminated Scena.
This week, Dec. 28, Empire, Croydon.

HERMYN'S FOUNTAINS,
Featuring
MLLE. NINA in her superb studies of the sculptor's art, midst cascades of water—300 gallons per minute. The Act with a reputation as a spectacular attraction.
WANTED, Monday next, and Jan. 11. Wire for Monday, HERMYN, Empire, Otley, Yorks.

WANTED, Jan. 18, 25, SALAMONSKY SWAR, 5 Regimental Royal Dragoons, Famous Russian Mimic. Wires, with offers, Palace, Dinnington, near Rotherham. Next, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

THE AVRIL JUVENILES,
Ten Smart Children,
In a beautiful song and dance scena,
"LITTLE GLEANERS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 4 and 11.
Wire MADGE CAREW, Palace, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Monday next, by
BERT WILLIAMS,
BERT WILLIAMS,
BERT WILLIAMS,
BERT WILLIAMS,
Ventriloquist.
Ventriloquist.
Address, 106, Gordon-hill, Enfield.
'Phone, 306 Enfield.

WANTED, Jan. 4, 18, 25.
LENARO.
"The Mad Hatter."
In Up-to-date Eccentric Act.
The novelty juggling comique, and Limb Manipulator extraordinary.
This (return), Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, January 4 and 11 by WISPER, the Comedy Kid Juggler. Also MISS BEATTIE BLOOM,
Favourite Comedienne, with her own songs.
Topping bill this week, Palace, Prescot.
Wire best offers, WISPER, Palace, Prescot.
Thanks Messrs. Hart and Hughes, Mr. Harry Lane for offers.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 4, 11, other dates,
CHARD'S TEN MILITARY DOGS.
One Great Drawing Act.
Work any stage.
Pavilion, Hawick, N.B.

EDITH TUDORA'S PONIES.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 25, Feb. 1, to follow Ipswich.
All coms., Agricultural Hall, Islington.

WANTED, next week, Jan. 4, also Jan. 11, 18, 25, PALETTE'S DOGS,
"British" First-class Canine Novelty.
Wire, Palace, Mansfield.

WANTED, Jan. 11, on, Buckingham's Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Queen of Brass Instrumentalists; Happy Harry Hellis, Comedian. This, Boro' T., Hinckley. Next, Public Hall, Newbridge.

DEVEREUX'S Novel Troupe of Dog Actors. The funniest show on the stage. All should see the fight between John Bull and the Kaiser. The audience kept in roars of laughter. These dogs fight in real costumes.
WANTED, Jan. 11, Share or Cert.
Pavilion, Royton, Lancs.

WANTED Known, Wanted Known,
the Act that Stands Alone.
No Bluff Required.
Not a One Dog Act, but a genuine real live and legitimate dog act. Beginners beware!
McCANN'S FAMOUS PERFORMING IRISH TERRIERS AND CHAMPION LEAPING DOGS.
Vacant, Jan. 4, 11, 18, North preferred.
Wire, McCANN, 14, Shelley-street, Leeds.

WILLIAM HENRY BROADHEAD & SON

OF

MANCHESTER and BLACKPOOL,

Operating the Following Establishments:

	REHEARSAL	'PHONE
WINTER GARDENS, MORECAMBE	10.30 a.m.	8 Morecambe
HULME HIPPO., MANCHESTER	2 p.m.	2388 Central
PAVILION, LIVERPOOL	2 ,,	1799 Royal
EMPIRE, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE	2 ,,	95 Ashton
KING'S, MANCHESTER	2 ,,	655 Rusholme
METROPOLE, MANCHESTER	2 ,,	2392 Central
HIPPODROME, SALFORD	2 ,,	2394 ,,
OSBORNE, MANCHESTER	2 ,,	2391 ,,
JUNCTION, MANCHESTER	2 ,,	2397 ,,
PALACE, PRESTON	2 ,,	317 Preston
HIPPODROME, PRESTON	2 ,,	360 ,,
CROWN, ECCLES	2 ,,	824 Eccles
HIP., QUEEN'S PARK, MANCHESTER	2 ,,	2396 Central
HIPPODROME, BURY	2 ,,	146 Bury
PAVILION, ASHTON	2 ,,	95 Ashton
EMPRESS, MANCHESTER	11 a.m.	2391 Central

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES AND MANAGERS.

SONGS—
The words of all songs must be sent to the Resident Acting-Manager fourteen days before opening.

SKETCHES—
The Lord Chamberlain's licence must be obtained and must be produced to the Resident Acting-Manager.

REHEARSALS—
Artistes should note the times of rehearsal as specified above. This clause in contracts will be strictly enforced.

BILL MATTER—
Full particulars of matter for bills, blocks, specimens of pictorials and advertisements must be sent to the Head Office, Hulme Hippodrome, twenty-one days before opening. Failing this, artistes are liable to cancellation of engagements.

SCENERY, PROPERTIES AND ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS—
The management cannot permit scenery, properties, etc., which have not been fireproofed, and electrical installations must be in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

All communications re any of these Establishments to—

PERCY B. BROADHEAD

The Hippo, Hulme, MANCHESTER.

General District Manager, **H. WINSTANLEY.**

Secretary, **W. H. ISHERWOOD.**

Telegrams: "BROADHEADS, MANCHESTER." 'Phone: Nos. 5928 and 5929 City.

B. F. KEITH'S THEATRES

E. F. ALBEE, General Manager, and

THE ORPHEUM CIRCUIT

MARTIN BECK, General Manager, Booking through

The United Booking Offices

Foreign Artistes who desire to play the United States in High-class Vaudeville Theatres under the management of these gentlemen communicate through your Agent, or direct with—

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PALACE THEATRE BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY.

Cable Address: "Hodgkeith, New York."

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FRED REEVES HORACE REEVES

"HEATHFIELD," 331, BRIXTON RD. S.W.

Telephone: 1066 Brixton. Telegrams: "Formerly, London."

STAR ACTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE TIME

There is no pleasure without PAYNE.

The Great Panto Comedian,

GILBERT PAYNE

Gigantic Success

as "PICKLES."

Miss Florrie Forde's record Panto "Cinderella."
Written and produced by Gilbert Payne.

VACANT PANTO 1915-16

Could entertain offer First-class Revue.
Principal Comedian with own Comedy Scenes.

Can be Seen Twice Nightly.

THIS: **Hippo., Sheffield.** NEXT: **Hippo., Liverpool.**

I have no Sole Agent.

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THREE STAGS HOTEL, KENNINGTON ROAD, LONDON, S.E.

A Society for Variety Performers.

Any bona-fide Variety Performer over the age of 18 and under 45 is eligible for membership.

ENTRANCE FEE ... ... SEVEN GUINEAS.
WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTION Class A ... ... ONE SHILLING.
Class B ... ONE SHILLING AND SIXPENCE.

Grants in case of Sickness, Death, etc. Free Medical Attendance. Free Legal Advice. Insurance of Properties against loss by Fire. Emergency Loans.

GRAND CEREMONIAL MEETING every Sunday evening at the THREE STAGS HOTEL, KENNINGTON.

For full particulars of the unrivalled advantages of membership, apply to—
ARTHUR WERE, *Secretary.*

VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND AND INSTITUTION.

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HON. TRUSTEES	J. W. CRAGG, JOE ELVIN, and HARRY LAUDER
HON. TREASURER	HARRY BLAKE
CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE	ED. H. LUCAS
SECRETARY	C. DOUGLAS STUART

Offices: 18, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

Committee meet to consider applications for relief every Wednesday at 1 o'clock.

FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED to maintain the expenses of the New Institution at Twickenham and the Branch at Gipsy Hill, in which 28 old performers are inmates, and for granting relief and loans to needy and deserving music hall artistes.

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

To all my Friends, Props., and Managers for their kind treatment in past.

MYRON M. GILDAY Presents

GILDAY AND FOX

THE MONARCHS OF HEBREW COMEDY.

Comedians Who Can Sing.

GILDAY AND FOX are the Highest Priced Act in their LINE in England.

WHY? BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST.

Are a sure hit and draw everywhere. Top of every Bill they play, NEVER OUT. Booked with every tour of any account. Wherever we Topped, more than full salary has been paid.

December 28 = = = = = PALACE, GRIMSBY.

A Few Open Weeks in 1915 and 1916.

Proprietors that have never played GILDAY and FOX, do so, and watch your results.

NOTICE.—We will soon produce a new Act by WORTON DAVID, England's Best Writer.

Address all Coms.,

'Phone: 1928 FINCHLEY.

MYRON M. GILDAY, Sole Proprietor and Manager, 71, The Drive, Golders Green, LONDON, N.W.

Miss CLAIRE ROMAINE

Principal Boy, Title Role, "Aladdin"

London Opera House

The Daily Mirror, Dec. 26, 1914

TRIUMPH OF PRINCIPAL BOY.

The Lord Mayor attended the first performance of "Aladdin" at the London Opera House on Thursday afternoon, when this house seemed to be filled mainly by famous people and soldiers, all in the best of spirits.

"Aladdin" is quite a triumph in its way, and the triumph is a personal one. London has long wanted a "principal boy" with genius, and London has found her in the person of Miss Claire Romaine.

Her performance of Aladdin at the London Opera House is quite the most remarkable thing of its kind that has been seen on the London stage for years.

There is no other principal boy in this country who could disguise her perfect technique under an assumption of cheerful inconsequence with the same success as Miss Romaine.

The London Opera House have certainly made a discovery in their Aladdin, and she should draw all London.

The soldiers who formed the greater part of the audience on Thursday afternoon turned themselves into a choir and sang all Miss Romaine's choruses with infinite enthusiasm.

"The Ballet of Babyland" is a delightful feature in this pantomime, which is really quite a gorgeous production.

A Prosperous New Year to All Friends in England, Australia, and America.

Tel: 502 Brixton. 303, BRIXTON ROAD, S.W.

RUTHIE VOLLMER.

The Dainty Comedienne with the Bagpipes.

DECEMBER 28 - - - PALACE, CORK
JANUARY 4 - - - EMPIRE, DUBLIN

FORTUNE & GRANVILLE

91, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

Telegrams: Westlight, London. 'Phone: 1300 Gerrard.

Xmas Bookings Include:

HIPPODROME, HULME, MANCHESTER.

Law Lake's "A Daylight Robbery."

Hamlin & Mack, Alec Kennedy, Sir Baxter Browne, Fairfax Sis, E. D. Nicholls, Edie Vesio, Chas. J. Johnson, Bob Morris, Law Lake and Beauty Chorus.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.

John Tiller's Panto, "Jack & Jill."

Including George Formby.

HIPPODROME, ROTHERHITHE.

Messrs. Baugh and Moule's Drama,

"The White Slave Traffic."

HIPPODROME, WILLESDEN.

Frederick Baugh's Drama Co.

"A Woman's Past."

HIPPODROME, POPLAR.

Frederick Baugh's Drama Co.

"The Sailor's Wedding."

HIPPODROME, GOLDER'S GREEN.

Own Company.

Gilbert Heron & Co., "Saved by Wireless." Leo Tell and Rose, Gwen Alva, Jack Burns, Frank Byron, Irish Students, Brown, Newland and Child, Pender's Six Dancing Pictures.

WANTED, for Feb. 1, Attractions to Top a Combination in Lancashire Town. Receipts were £400 per week to same Town in November, with T. and G. Combination.

WANTED, Stage-filling Attractions up to £40 for Midland Hall; entry guaranteed.

MISS JACK ALLEN.

VIOLINIST.

One of the smartest Trios in London can be heard playing nightly in Madame Walter's Orchestra, IONIC THEATRE, Golders Green.

M.H.A.R.A. and V.A.B. FUND.

NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members:—The Mowatts, Wellman, Stanley Howard, Musical Baldwins, Mascotois, Josephine Davis, Irene Miller, Dakin and Fowler, Del Velde, Rayland, Bladon and Bonner, H. Bedford, Burt and Hart, Percy Davidson, Bohana, Trevor and Ward, Weller, Mabie Martin, Rudyard Bear, Sydney's Monkeys, E. Wynn. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

The World's Laughter Maker.

A. G. SPRY

This Act has played

3 Round the World Tours

under the HARRY RICKARD & SYDNEY HYMAN Managements.

A. G. S. wishes to thank the following gentlemen for Pantomime offers:—

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DARRELL'S AGENCY.
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C. HAMILTON BAINES.

To return and play last year's part.

Arrangements Complete.

"BUTTONS" ("Cinderella").

PRINCIPAL COMEDIAN,

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.

LONDON: PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY "THE ERA," LIMITED, at 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C., Wednesday, December 30, 1914.